

Publisher accused of pulverising Egyptian classics

CAIRO (AP) — As if troubles with censors and Muslim radicals were not enough, Egypt's writers have a new enemy. A publisher is accused of tampering with the works of famous Arab writers, including Nobel prize winner Naguib Mahfouz.

A trial opened Monday on a suit charging the Maktabet Misr Publishers with slashing steamy love scenes or altering the characters of women pictured as independent with an eye towards sales in conservative Saudi Arabia.

Other supposed changes, particularly in Mr. Mahfouz's works, were seemingly without reason. Helmy Al Nemem, a culture reporter who first found the tampering, says Maktabet Misr's manager, Salih Al Sahar, is "a frustrated writer" injecting his own words.

Maktabet Misr is said to have made changes in 36 books by the late Ihsan Abdul Qaddous, three by Mr. Mahfouz and one by the late Yousef Idris, known as the father of the Egyptian short story.

Abdul Qaddous, who died in 1990 and whose novels became popular movies, seems to have suffered the most. His two sons, outraged at the changes, have brought three suits against the publisher, for three novels.

"Usually if a book is not approved of, it is banned altogether, but never changed. This is a disgrace that has never happened in the history of literature," said one of the sons, Mohammad Abdul Qaddous.

Mr. Sahar denied to the Associated Press that he modified the works of Mr. Mahfouz and Idris and called the changes in Abdul Qaddous' books "corrections."

In other interviews, he said he had bad permission for the changes. He was quoted in the Egyptian magazine October as saying he altered Abdul Qaddous' works to market them in "a Gulf country," presumably Saudi Arabia.

Such a motive is not surprising given the growing constraints put on Egypt's writers and artists by religious conservatism.

Last year, Mr. Mahfouz, who is 83 and won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1988, was stabbed by an Islamic radical. His works and those of other authors have been censored by the government for touching on religious sensitivities. Even Egyptian movies, once known for liberal scenes, have gotten more conservative to satisfy Saudi tastes.

Abdul Qaddous' novels are banned in Saudi Arabia

Sudan says Libya to expel 30,000 this year

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Libya has given 30,000 Sudanese workers until December to pack their belongings and leave the country, a Sudanese official was quoted as saying on Monday.

Salah Mohammad Osman, the acting secretary general for expatriates affairs, told the official Al Suden Al Hadith newspaper that Tripoli would give the expelled workers time to make an orderly exit and settle their affairs.

There have been "problems with the repatriation of Sudanese expelled from Libya and some of them returned by paying their own way," Mr. Osman told Al Suden Al Hadith.

Sudanese Minister of State for Expatriate Affairs Tajeed Al Hadi was in Libya to work out the problems, Mr. Osman said.

For those caught at the border, Khartoum has "distributed questionnaires to organise their transport and will help them in paying border taxes and customs," he said.

"Anyone who considers my father's books as violating Islam is narrow minded. My father's books are about freedom," he said. "The changes were not made for religious reasons. They were made for commercial reasons."

Mr. Nemem said he found changes in Mr. Mahfouz's "The Sparrow and Autumn," "Cairo 30" and "The Beginning and the End," the last of which is about a woman who becomes a prostitute to help her impoverished family.

The novel contains the sentence: "He asked himself whether he should tell his brother what descended upon him in changes and developments, but he shrank back and postponed it until later." The Maktabet Misr version reads simply: "He asked himself whether he should tell his brother what descended upon him."

In the altered Idris book, "The Forbidden," one change has the words "licentious prostitute" becoming "licentious female."

Both Mr. Mahfouz and Idris' widow, Ragaa, have denied Mr. Sahar's assertion she was given permission for changes. Mrs. Idris said she would join the suit unless Mr. Sahar withdraws the editions. Mr. Mahfouz is said to be too tired for a legal battle.

The official signing ceremony of the accord Thursday in Washington "will be the first step on a long and difficult road on which the Arabs should increase their support of the Palestinians," the paper added.

Another Qatari daily, Al Raya, said "the important thing is not to close the accord on paper but to translate it into fact," adding that peace must now be reached between Israel on one side and Syria and Lebanon on the other.

Qatar announced in July that it would open a representative office in the Palestinian autonomous areas, the first Arab Gulf state to do so.

The Gulf News in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) expressed concern that the accord was the fruit of too many concessions from PLO leader Yasser Arafat to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

"It is feared that Arafat has negotiated from a position of weakness and made too many concessions," it said.

OAU team in Algeria to study poll monitoring

PARIS (Agencies) — Organisation of African Unity (OAU) officials are visiting Algeria to discuss the grouping's role in monitoring Algeria's controversial presidential elections, the official Algerian news agency APS said.

OAU Deputy Secretary General Daniel Anthony is heading the delegation, which arrived late Sunday.

Algerian President Liamine Zeroual, who is standing for the presidency, had sent letters to the heads of OAU, the Arab League and the United Nations asking them to send obser-

vers to monitor the November presidential poll.

Algerian officials say the three organisations had agreed to send hundreds of observers to watch the poll.

The country's main opposition parties reiterated on Sunday they reject the poll. They say it is aimed at consolidating the army's influence in government.

More than 30,000 people have been killed in violence pitting government forces against guerrillas since January 1992 when authorities banned a general election which Islamists looked set to win.

In Charaba district of Algiers, security forces stormed a guerrilla hideout and killed two men.

Two others were killed in the capital's Anassers suburb after they were spotted by security forces. Another man, armed with an automa-

tic pistol and a dagger, was gunned down in Bentahla, in the outskirts of Algiers, the statement added.

Meanwhile Algerian Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi arrived in Mauritania on Sunday for a three-day official visit with a large delegation of businessmen, officials said.

Mr. Sifi will visit Mauritania's economic capital of Nouadhibou, where the two countries have built an oil refinery and killed two men.

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Ciller offers early poll in bid for new coalition

ANKARA (AFP) — Turkish Prime Minister Tansu Ciller on Monday caved in to the rightwing Motherland Party (ANAP) and agreed to hold elections next year as a condition to bringing the movement into a new coalition.

Anatolia news agency said.

If the Motherland Party accepts the proposal, elections will take place in June, four months ahead of the previously scheduled date of October.

The party is to give its answer on Wednesday.

Ms. Ciller's True Path Party (DYP) has 182 and ANAP 96 out of a total of 450.

The final point said the new government should "concentrate on current issues" — in other words, it should not launch any new initiatives with a view to the upcoming elections.

Mr. Yilmaz described the coalition proposals as "constructive" and worth studying.

The prime minister, whose coalition government collapsed last week over a dispute with its previous junior partner, made a new offer to ANAP leader Mesut Yilmaz, agreeing to the early vote, Anatolia said.

According to the agency, her offer to the Motherland

Party revolved around four points, including a role for Mr. Yilmaz himself in a new government.

Other proposals, besides the call for June elections, included representation of the two parties in government proportional to their seats in parliament.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Fire aboard U.S. Navy frigate put out

BAHRAM (AP) — A fire aboard a U.S. Navy frigate in the Gulf was extinguished without causing any casualties, an official U.S. Navy communiqué said Monday. It said the USS Gary was being towed to an undisclosed Gulf port to assess damage and make repairs. It did not disclose the extent of the damage nor say how serious was the blaze. The vessel reported the fire Sunday in one of its auxiliary machinery compartments, it said. Three crew members were treated on-scene for heat stress, the communiqué added. Personnel from the patrol ships USS Tempest and USS Cyclone as well as the destroyer USS Harry W. will help clean up the damage, it said. The cause of the blaze would be investigated.

Turkish court frees PKK chief's brother

ANAKARA (R) — A Turkish court has released the brother of the head of the rebel Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) who was detained at the weekend for trying to travel to Greece illegally, police said on Monday. A security court in the western city of Izmir freed Mehmet Ocalan on Sunday night without charges, a police spokesman told Reuters. Two suspected PKK guerrillas detained with him were remanded in custody, he said. Mr. Ocalan, his six children and the two suspected guerrillas were caught trying to board a privately-hired boat for Greece on Saturday. Anatolian news agency quoted Mr. Ocalan, the brother of PKK leader Abdullah Ocalan, as admitting he had attempted to leave the country without a passport and visa but only because he needed medical treatment abroad. He apparently believed it would be difficult for him to obtain the correct documents. Abdullah Ocalan's other brother Osman is a top PKK military commander.

Nephew of U.N. chief sentenced to 10 years

CAIRO (AP) — An Alexandria court on Sunday found a nephew of U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali guilty of smuggling the hallucinogen LSD into Egypt and sentenced to 10 years in jail. The youth, Karim Raouf Ghali, 17, also was ordered to pay a fine of \$61,000 and customs duties of some \$847,000 for the smuggled tablets. The street value of the drugs was not immediately available. The Ghali family is expected to appeal. Judge Abdul nasser Ramdan, head of the Alexandria juvenile court, told Karim, his father and other relatives that the sentence was lenient. He noted that the initial years of the sentence are to be served in a juvenile detention centre. Police arrested Karim in his family's villa in the Mediterranean city of Alexandria after two students told police they had obtained LSD from him. During the 1½ hour court session, Karim admitted he brought the LSD into Egypt but said he thought he had the right to do so because it was for his personal use. "It would have been a crime if I harmed others with the LSD, but I did not," he told the court. He did not explain how the drug got into the other students' hands.

British lawyers to join Egyptian trial

CAIRO (AP) — A team of British attorneys will join Egyptian lawyers in defending 49 members of the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt's largest fundamentalist group, charged with belonging to an illegal organisation. The four Britons, who are planning to arrive Wednesday in Cairo, will attempt to persuade authorities to reverse a presidential decree that ordered that the brotherhood members be tried by a military court rather than a civilian one. "We want to make sure that justice is done. It does not seem that this will happen in a military court," Ali Mohammad Azhar, who will head the team, told the Associated Press. The trial, which opened Sept. 16, has caused an uproar among Egypt's opposition and human rights groups who charge that it is unconstitutional because the suspects are not soldiers. Military trials allow no appeal and often issue harsh verdicts. The Brotherhood is legally banned but had been tolerated by the government until last January when authorities began rounding them up and charging them with trying to overthrow the state. The Brotherhood contends that the arrests are aimed preventing the members from running into participating parliamentary elections scheduled for November.

Kuwait asks for U.N. study of its waters

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Kuwait has asked the United Nations to investigate the existence of hazardous chemicals in its waters, which the local press has blamed on Iraqi ships sunk during the 1991 Gulf war. Quoted on Monday by the Kuwaiti daily Al Qabas, Health Minister Abdul Rahman Mehliah said that "contacts were underway with the United Nations to conduct a study to evaluate the state of the water." He added that studies completed after the Gulf war by environmental protection agencies, including some from the U.N., "did not conclude the existence of chemical products." However, conventional ammunition aboard sunken Iraqi ships and oil spilled from three tankers had been discovered, he said. "Part of this oil did not reach our waters, while some was evacuated," he said.

Two Germans reported missing in Red Sea

CAIRO (AP) — Two Germans disappeared while diving off Egypt's Red Sea resort of Hurghada, and extensive searches have failed to locate them, police and diplomats said Monday. The German embassy confirmed that two German divers were missing but refused to give their names. Police said they were in their mid-20s. The two had rented a boat with a group of German tourists to go diving around the coral reefs at the island of Shadwan on Sept. 15, police said. They successfully completed their first dive, but did not emerge from a second, according to police officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity. The Germans were experienced divers and were working towards licences as diving instructors, a Cairo-based German diplomat said.

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman 8:00 every Monday
Arr. Damascus 5:00 p.m. every Monday

DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:40 ... Beirut (RJ)
08:00 ... Aqaba (RJ)
09:00 ... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
12:10 ... Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:15 ... Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
13:00 ... Paris, Brussels (RJ)
13:10 ... Cairo, Alexandria (RJ)
14:05 ... Geneva, London (RJ)
21:20 ... Larnaca (RJ)
21:25 ... Tel Aviv, Doha (RJ)
21:45 ... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
22:20 ... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
22:30 ... Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple	600/400
Banana	450
Cabbage	620
Carrot	400/300
Cauliflower	270/180
Cucumbers (large)	180 / 120
Cucumbers (small)	300 / 200
Eggplant	240 / 150
Garlic	700/500
Grapes	750/600
Guava	100
Lemon	250/200
Marrow (large)	180 / 120
Marrow (small)	370 / 200
Mulukhiyah	160 / 100
Okra	850 / 700
Orange	230 / 180
Pepper (hot)	230 / 180
Pepper (sweet)	220 / 150
Pomegranate	340/250
Potato	200/150
Spinach	300/200
String Beans	780 / 600
Tomato	110/90
Water Melon	110 / 70

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Response 630341*
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 621111, 637777
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 864390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 605890
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints 787467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Computer Telephone Room 623101
Abdullah Telephone Repair 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 615615

Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Qaeda Air Int'l. Airport 06-53200

Al-Khalil Pharmacy

Mayhew: No compromise on Northern Ireland disarming

SYDNEY (R) — Britain said Monday that peace in Northern Ireland would be advanced if Republican and loyalist guerrillas vowed not to be the first to resort to violence.

However, London would not soften its demand that paramilitaries disarm, Britain's Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Sir Patrick Mayhew, told a luncheon in Sydney.

Sir Patrick said no-violence pledges would advance the British-ruled province's peace process but could not be a substitute for a surrender of illegal arms.

"It would be an advance I think," Sir Patrick said when asked if last month's declaration by loyalist guerrillas, that they would not resort to arms first, could be a way forward.

"But there really must not be any compromise... there cannot be any excuse at all, no justification whatever, for threatening to revert to the use of violence or for supporting the use of violence."

Police break up protest near U.S. embassy in New Delhi

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Police used water cannons to break up a protest near the U.S. embassy here Monday against a resumption of sales of U.S. military hardware to India's arch-rival Pakistan, witnesses said.

About 300 people chanting anti-American and anti-Pakistani slogans were doused with water cannons after they broke through steel barricades and tried to storm the U.S. embassy, they said.

"USA down, down," the demonstrators shouted. The protest was organised by the National Students Union of India (NSUI), which claimed U.S. defence sales to Pakistan would upset the military balance in South Asia.

"Such mindless U.S. acts

shall further aggravate tensions and suspicions and worsen the already existing situation in the region," the NSUI said.

The Indian government has also condemned the U.S. Senate's vote last week to allow restricted supply of military hardware to Pakistan.

Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee described the U.S. Senate's decision as "unfortunate" and said it could lead to an "unintended and undesirable arms race."

The Senate voted to allow Pakistan to receive \$370 million worth of military equipment in a one-time waiver of a 1985 amendment freezing military aid to Islamabad if it did not put a verifiable cap on its nuclear programme.

Echoing remarks made by British and Irish prime ministers at the weekend, Sir Patrick asked rhetorically if Mr. Adams' comments were a threat of violence.

"What possible excuse can there be for a return to violence," he said, rejecting Mr. Adams' view that demands for a surrender of weapons before talks could reignite violence in Northern Ireland and sink the peace process.

If on the other hand a return to violence is actually being threatened, then that underlines the validity of the fears British people have."

Mr. Adams, making some of his gloomiest remarks on the peace process, told British radio Friday: "Architects of the process are pessimistic. We see the process as being doomed to failure."

British Prime Minister John Major said after talks with his Irish counterpart John Bruton in Spain Saturday that Mr. Adams had the power to ensure

there was no return to violence. Mr. Bruton said Mr. Adams' remarks were unhelpful.

Mr. Major and Mr. Bruton agreed to step up their efforts to push forward the peace process and intensify their contacts.

Sir Patrick, who spoke at the end of a six-day visit to Australia, said Britain was prepared to find solutions to the impasse, despite its firm stand on the need for paramilitaries to disarm. "We are not just sitting and looking at a road block but trying to find a way around it," he said.

Sir Patrick was due to leave Sydney Monday night for Auckland for several days before returning to London.

He is being accompanied by a small group of Northern Irish businessmen who want to boost exports and stimulate inward investment in the province in the wake of the ceasefires.



CARNAGE IN FRENCH VILLAGE: Firemen carry away the body of one of the people who were killed in a street of the French village of Cuers, near Toulon. A 16-year-old boy went berserk, killing 13 people and wounding 9 others before turning his gun on himself (AFP photo)

Suu Kyi says her release is no indication of change in Burma

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Burmese democratic activist Aung San Suu Kyi says her release from house arrest is no indication of change in Burma and that it should not result in an torrent of foreign investment and aid for the current junta.

"I am just one person who has been released, why should that make a difference?" Ms. Suu Kyi said in an interview published in the Sunday Star.

She added that there are still thousands of political prisoners in Burma, which chose her opposition party, the National League for Democracy (NLD), to lead the country in 1990 elections.

The military government refused to recognise the election, and imprisoned Ms. Suu Kyi and thousands of other NLD members soon after. The 1991 Nobel Peace winner was released from house arrest earlier this year.

Britain is reported to be

the biggest investor in Burma up to March 1 this year with a total of \$647.76 Million, followed by France with \$465 million. The United States ranked fifth with \$203.19 million.

"I believe aid should be gradual and conditional on the process and pace of democratisation," she told the Sunday Star two weeks ago at her house in Rangoon.

The 51-year-old popular activist believes the military government is trying to pattern itself on the Indonesian political system, where the military is dominant.

She declined to say if this was acceptable to her NLD and added, "it is not for NLD to say. The question is whether it is acceptable to the people of Burma."

On the new constitution being drawn up, which might bar Burmese married to foreigners from holding political posts, she said, "some say it is aimed at me — that would be a great pity because no national constitu-

tion should be written with one person in mind," she added.

Ms. Suu Kyi married a British academic 23 years ago, but held on to her Burmese nationality. She has refused to go overseas or to see him in Britain for fear the junta may not allow her back into the country.

Ms. Suu Kyi supported the proposed admission of Burma into the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) but noted that Singapore's Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew has said that would not be immediately possible.

She said she prefers calling her country Burma and added India, China and Japan also have old names that are not indigenous and this did not detract from their greatness.

The junta uses the name Myanmar, which preferred by some ethnic groups within the country.

Tabloid says Diana had secret tryst

LONDON (AP) — A Sunday tabloid said Princess Diana had another "secret tryst" with married rugby player Will Carling, but he said it was just a coincidence they were at the same sports clinic. In August, Carling acknowledged a friendship with the princess. His wife of 15 months said she had determined it was no more than a friendship. The News Of The World carried front page pictures Sunday of the 34-year-old princess in work clothes and Carling in trousers and a shirt leaving the west London clinic separately, and on inside pages printed photos of them entering the building. Times printed below the pictures indicated they were in the same building for 26 minutes. Near the end of an accompanying report, the newspaper says "there's no suggestion of a physical relationship with Carling." Carling said Sunday that he had gone to the clinic for a pre-arranged session with his physiotherapist and did not see the princess. Press Association, the British national news agency, said sources close to Buckingham Palace suggested it was a chance meeting, and said newspaper reports of the incident were misleading.

In August, the News Of The World said 29-year-old Carling and the estranged wife of Prince Charles had been having secret "trysts." Julia Carling, Carling's wife of 15 months, was quoted then as saying the two were just friends, but, "I am sad that Will put himself in that position and that the princess did as well."

Estefan questioned in deadly boating accident

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (R) — A speeding wave runner struck singer Gloria Estefan's powerboat Sunday and its driver tumbled into the boat's propeller to his death. Investigators questioned Estefan and her husband, music producer Emilio Estefan, who was at the helm of the couple's 11-metre motorboat at the time of the accident. Neither was injured.

"We're trying to piece together what took place this afternoon," said Capt. Mike Lamphear of the Florida Marine Patrol. "It appears that the young man on the wave runner was attempting to jump the waves right behind the Estefans' boat, and fell into the propeller or outboard motor."

Until 1992, Hong Kong citizens were automatically considered British citizens with all the rights and privileges accorded to those born in the British Isles. But Britain has tightened its immigration policy to prevent automatic entry to colonials and Commonwealth subjects.

Reaction in Britain to Mr. Patten's call was almost entirely negative. "Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten has lost touch with reality," the British Sunday Express commented in an editorial.

"He appears to have no idea that people in Britain are deeply nervous of further waves of immigration. We have been kind enough to the industrious Hong Kong Chinese and more than 200,000 are already heading to Britain under a special deal. That is quite enough."

Russian TV pulls the plug on Solzhenitsyn

LONDON (AFP) — Russian public television has decided to axe a regular 15-minute social and current affairs slot by pro-nationalist writer Alexander Solzhenitsyn, Moscow's commercial NTV station reported. Announcing the move, Mr. Solzhenitsyn's wife Natalya told journalists that the management of the television "had not even thought it necessary to notify Solzhenitsyn himself of this fact," the report monitored here by the BBC said.

Flight paths, power lines hit as New Zealand volcano awakes

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand volcano Mount Ruapehu burst angrily into life Monday, spewing huge clouds of ash that shut down flight paths, closed roads and played havoc with power lines.

"The kettle is boiling vigorously now," Department of Conservation scientist Harry Keys said as Ruapehu began belching molten rock and pouring out streams of mud in a continuous series of eruptions.

"Projectiles as big as cars are being thrown onto the rim... It's very spectacular. I'm in awe of mother nature at the moment," local ski field manager Scott Lee told Reuters by telephone.

Television pictures showed ash exploding in a vast black cloud from the 2,800-metre (9,184-ft) peak before slowly cascading downwards.

The Civil Aviation Authority, amending earlier restrictions, said all air space up to 30,000 ft (9,150 metres) had been declared a danger area over a large swath of the east-central North Island, with flights

prohibited in cloud or at night.

It said aircraft were at risk from clouds of volcanic ash, hard to detect visually or by radar, which can damage engines and cause loss of power.

Airports at Napier and Gisborne, some 200 kilometres away, were closed.

Civil Defence Authorities issued a general alert in the sparsely-populated region within a 100-kilometres radius of Ruapehu.

People were advised to disconnect water tanks to avoid contamination, to keep supplies of bottled water on hand and to listen out for Civil Defence warnings on the radio.

Falls of ash forced the closure of arterial route state highway one, the so-called Desert Road, and rained down on power transmission lines, causing voltage fluctuations that made lights and computer screens flicker as far south as Wellington.

"A lot of the ash is raining down on the transmission line. The stuff is highly corrosive and highly conducting, and of course it's giving

us hell," said Kevin Mackey of the national grid company, Trans Power.

Generating company Electricorp said it had shut down part of the system of rivers and dams that supplies its hydro stations in the region, but there was no significant impact on supply.

Scientists said Ruapehu looked to be building up for a still mightier eruption.

In 1953, an eruption wrecked a railway bridge just before the arrival of a Wellington-Auckland express train, which plumped into a river with the loss of more than 150 lives.

Soldiers' families were evacuated from an army base at Waipu, and a spokesman there said the military was in a high state of readiness for possible emergency operations. Three ski-fields were closed at the weekend.

New Zealand has a high density of active volcanoes and is also prone to earthquakes. At least 337 people have been killed in volcanic eruptions in the past 150 years.

The party is expected to formally announce Mr. Peng as its presidential candidate later this week.

Mr. Peng had spent 22 years abroad and Mr. Hsu, 54, was in exile for 10 years. Both had been branded subversives for promoting Taiwan's independence from mainland China. Both governments consider Taiwan a part of China, but each views the other as illegitimate.

The presidential election in March will be Taiwan's first by universal suffrage. In the past, presidents were chosen by a rubber stamp Electoral College dominated by the ruling Nationalists, who fled the Communist takeover of mainland China in 1949.

Mr. Peng and Mr. Hsu emerged as the front-runners after the party's primary election in June.

Mr. Peng, a former professor, was arrested by the government in 1964 and jailed for 13 months before leaving for Sweden and then the United States in 1970. He returned to Taiwan in 1992 and joined the DPP early this year.

Mr. Hsu, a disenchanted Nationalist, emigrated to the United States in 1979. He returned illegally in 1989 and was jailed on sedition charges, but was pardoned and released a year later.

Qichen to London in October, and shook off charges he was raising false hopes in the British colony.

"I think all of us recognise the arguments that are put on the other side," Mr. Patten said.

He also expressed surprise about the hullabaloo created as a result of his comments.

"I think the Hong Kong people are pretty realistic about the prospects, all of us are pretty realistic about the prospects, but it doesn't mean we can simply walk away from the argument."

Mr. Patten said he was simply reiterating policy formulated six years ago.

China was angered by Hong Kong's calls for full British passports, which reached a crescendo after the 1989 Tiananmen crackdown against pro-democracy demonstrators in Beijing.

Britain responded by granting full British passports to 50,000 heads of households.

But the demands on Britain have largely been forgotten as Hong Kong people turn to more hospitable shores ahead of the June 1997 handover of Hong Kong to China.

Over 1,000 people a week depart in search of the security of a foreign passport. Canada and Australia are the top two destinations.

China has again lost no time in lashing out at Mr. Patten.

He appears to have no idea that people in Britain are deeply nervous of further waves of immigration. We have been kind enough to the industrious Hong Kong Chinese and more than 200,000 are already heading to Britain under a special deal. That is quite enough."

As Reagan fades, Nancy Davis told the magazine she had found solace in her extended family.

The article said the Reagan family had a pact of silence about the former president's condition adding that Nancy even refused to allow her husband to be photographed.

Reagan finds peace with his family — Newsweek

NEW YORK (R) — Alzheimer's disease has brought former U.S. President Ronald Reagan closer to his family after years of estrangement, Newsweek magazine reported Sunday.

In its issue to be published Monday, the weekly magazine quoted Nancy Reagan as saying a new closeness

had enveloped a family whose bitter feuds have been dragged through the media in the past.

"I think any illness brings a family closer together," Mrs. Reagan said in a written response to questions posed by the magazine about her husband's health.

"It (the disease) brings things into focus and should

reshuffle your priorities," she added.

Mr. Reagan, 84, has Alzheimer's disease, a degenerative illness with memory lapses as one of the main symptoms.

Newsweek said old hostilities had ended with the couple's daughter, Patti Davis, who once described her mother as a manipula-

tive pill-popper and her father as cold and remote.

Their relationship began to change before Mr. Reagan was diagnosed as having Alzheimer's disease. "He would write me notes," said Patti.

"He was trying to say to me, 'I'm 82, I'm 83, I'm not going to be here much longer. And I love you and

we love you,'" she added.

Patti's reconciliation with her mother was slow and sometimes painful, wrote Newsweek, but they had managed to confront the past together, including Patti's posing nude in Playboy magazine.

"We made our first tentative, baby steps towards reconciliation," Nancy Reagan

World News



French Gendarmes cover a body of one of the people who were murdered in a village street of Cuers, near Toulon (AFP photo)

French killer — a shy boy with Hitler pictures

CUERS, France (AFP) — A teenager who went berserk killing 13 people in a shooting spree was a shy boy who kept pictures of Hitler and neo-Nazi books in his bedroom, according to the mayor of this southern French village.

Mayor Guy Guigou said

Gendarmes had found the books and pictures at the boy's home at Solliès-Pont, a village six kilometres from here.

Eric Parenti, who committed suicide with his own gun Sunday, was a taciturn loner without boy or girlfriends, villagers in Solliès-

Pont said.

"He was a rather introverted pupil, secretive and shy. He visibly avoided contacts with his comrades," said one of Eric's former teachers at a local school.

The teenager first shot

dead his mother Marie-Jeanne, stepfather Yves Bichet and 11-year-old half-brother and then beat them over the head with a hammer, police said.

The bodies were found overnight Saturday by another half-brother, Jean-Yves.

The teenager, a pupil from a technical high school in the Mediterranean port of Toulon, then walked the six kilometres to this village and fired on anything that moved.

Lieutenant-Colonel Marcel Kapfer, who heads the Gendarmerie (militarised Police) in the southern Var Department, said Monday that two weapons were found near Eric's body: a .22 rifle belonging to his stepfather and a .22 pistol, along with a box of cartridges.

Two others died as they tried to withdraw cash from an automatic bank teller.

It was Gendarmes moved in to try to halt the carnage that Eric turned the gun on himself, firing a bullet into his head.

Shopkeeper Frederic Baris said of the boy: "He didn't look particularly worked up. I saw him walking calmly, without hurrying, holding a rifle."

Cafe owner Guy Sintest said the boy was "very calm. He looked as if he was out hunting. He put the gun to his shoulder, took aim and opened fire."

On Monday, the number of Eric's victims rose to 13 when one of the wounded died in hospital.

The latest victim was a 59-year-old man who was hospitalised in a coma in the southern port of Marseille Sunday, hospital sources said.

The death left six wounded, two of them very seriously ill.

Rwanda wants deeds not words from U.N.

KIGALI (R) — Rwanda Monday urged the United Nations to round up the leaders of last year's genocide instead of organising another conference to discuss the refugee crisis.

"The United Nations must first ensure that planners of the genocide are arrested wherever they reside in foreign countries and brought to justice," presidential aide Colonel Frank Mugambage told state radio.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali sent his special envoy Jose Luis Jesus to Rwanda last week to organise a regional conference on the repatriation of two million Rwandan refugees languishing in Zaire, Tanzania and Burundi.

Zaire this month promised

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sadako Ogata, that it would arrest suspected killers on its soil but U.N. officials say it has yet to start doing so.

Senior diplomats said

Rwanda has also asked the Tanzanian government to round up suspects on its soil.

The diplomats said the Rwandan government recently handed Tanzania a list of more than 400 extremist Hutus living in refugee camps in western

Tanzania and demanded their arrests.

Earlier this month, the deputy prosecutor on a U.N. tribunal set up to try the ringleaders said trials could begin by the end of the year if the suspects were brought back to Rwanda.

Judge Honore Rakotomana said the first indictments could be issued in November but the tribunal's success depended on co-operation from countries where the ringleaders have sought refuge, which include France, the United States and Belgium as well as European and African capitals.

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this year to send home all refugees on its soil.

In a sign of Zaire's growing frustration with the refugees, Rwandan radio said Zairean authorities Monday gave Rwandan Hutus living in the border town of Goma until the end of next week to leave the town and go back to their camps.

Diplomats however say a massacre this month of more than 100 Hutsi refugees by Tutsi soldiers in northwestern Rwanda has made it unlikely the refugees will go home in the near future.

The killings in Kanama village dealt a blow to U.N. efforts for repatriation and raised fears the Tutsi-led army is out of control and hungry for retribution against the Hutu population.

The present government took power in July after Rwanda Patriotic Front guerrillas, based around the Tutsi minority, overthrew the Hutu regime which orchestrated the genocide.

Zaire last month kicked out more than 15,000

Rwandan and Burundian refugees and gave the

UNHCR until the end of

Karachi peace talks heads for deadlock

KARACHI (AFP) — The Pakistan government and main opposition in strife-torn Karachi go into new talks Tuesday with hopes fading for chances of finding a quick solution to the bloodshed in the country's largest city.

Tension was high in the city Monday at the funeral of two Mohajir Quami Movement (MQM) activists killed in a gunbattle with security forces Sunday.

Their deaths led to a new eruption of violence and at least 15 people were killed during the day.

The MQM and government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto go into their tenth round of talks since July in an increasingly hostile atmosphere, analysts say.

The MQM has accused the government of staging the gunbattles in which the two activists were killed and has stepped up charges that the authorities are carrying out extra-judicial executions.

The Mohajir group, which

is demanding greater democracy and more government positions, also says the government is being "insincere" in the peace talks on ways to stop violence that has cost the lives of more than 1,400 people this year.

The government is meanwhile pursuing its drive against the MQM.

Interior Minister Naseerullah Babar said an estimated 400 "terrorists" had been killed or arrested in recent months since the government intensified a security clampdown.

Hundreds of people are rounded up in lightning raids, a practice that has the MQM up in arms. Most people are usually released after questioning, but the MQM says the entire government policy is racist. "Mohajirs are being targeted simply because they are Mohajirs," said Shoaili Bokhari, an MQM leader.

"They are now harassing our women and old people." He said female relatives of MQM activists are being harassed and even tortured.

Mr. Dehlvi says the MQM is continuing with the talks to avoid being accused of opting for violence rather than negotiation. He has repeatedly denied government claims that the party is behind most of the deaths.

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French heavyweights return to political scene after elections

PARIS (AFP) — French political heavyweights Edouard Balladur, Michel Rocard and Charles Pasqua made a successful comeback in parliamentary by-elections and a Senate poll Sunday.

Former Prime Minister Balladur, defeated by Mr. Jacques Chirac in presidential elections last May, was reelected as a deputy to the National Assembly in a by-election in what had been considered a foregone conclusion in his Paris constituency.

His campaign spokesman, Nicolas Sarkozy, former budget minister, regained his seat as deputy in another safe constituency at Neuilly, west of the capital.

In addition to Mr. Sarkozy, 10 other former ministers in the Balladur government that stepped down in May have been returned to sit in parliament when it reopens next October following a series of by-elections that began in June.

The only failure among Mr. Balladur supporters standing Sunday was that of former Cooperation Minister Bernard Debé, defeated in the central

Indre-Et-Loire Department by a Socialist.

Under French election law, ministers must give up their parliamentary seats to substitutes, but the latter must surrender their seats when ministers lose their portfolios, provoking by-elections.

The blunt-speaking Mr. Pasqua, who sided with Mr. Balladur in the presidentials, was meanwhile re-elected a senator in his Hauts-De-Seine stronghold west of Paris.

Centre-right Senate Speaker René Monory, second-ranking in the state hierarchy after President Chirac, was comfortably re-elected a senator in the Vienne Department, eastern France.

And Mr. Rocard, who was ousted as Socialist Party leader after his party's disastrous showing in European elections in June, was also elected to the Senate.

The Socialists, looking for signs of turnover in their fortunes since their triumph in 1993 legislative elections and a comprehensive though better-than-expected defeat of their candidate, Lionel Jospin in the presi-

dential poll, saw their party gain eight seats in the Senate elections, against two gains for the neo-Gaullist Rally For The Republic.

The Communist Party ended all square but the centre-right Union for French Democracy, a partner in the government, lost several Senate seats.

The French left made considerable gains in Paris, winning five out of the 12 seats that had to be filled in the capital.

The Communists, who previously had no seats in the capital, gained one, with four going to the Socialists who previously held only one.

The results had been expected after a good showing by the Socialists in municipal elections in Paris last June, while the right-wing vote was split by two dissident lists.

Socialist group leader in the Senate Claude Estier hailed the performance as a "new victory" for the left as a whole, including the Communists, ecologists and other groupings. Mr. Rocard described the Socialist result as a "fine success."

Spokesmen for the government parties put down the result as an "automatic consequence" of the municipal results.

Voting took place for 117 seats in Sunday's Senate elections.

Senators are elected for a nine-year term, with a third of the chamber being renewed every three years, by an Electoral College of 50,696 municipal and regional councillors.

There were a record 696 candidates for Senate seats, including rivals from within the components of the government headed by Alain Juppé.

Mr. Juppé can expect snapping on his economic performance from Mr. Balladur and his supporters, who also include former Defence Minister François Leotard.

Since taking office both he and Mr. Chirac have plunged in the opinion polls, condemned for their apparent inability to resolve France's economic and unemployment problems, and the decision to resume nuclear weapons tests.

China accuses U.S. of covert support for Tibetan independence

BEIJING (AP) — China, in an official editorial, accused the U.S. government Sunday of covertly supporting independence for Chinese-ruled Tibet.

The Xinhua News Agency commentary marked the second time in four days China has criticised President Bill Clinton's Sept. 13 meeting with the Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Time and again Washington has publicly admitted that Tibet is part of China and declared that it will not recognise an independent Tibet," Xinhua said in the editorial carried in several major newspapers.

"But covertly the U.S. government and the Congress have been hacking the separatist activity of the Dalai Lama for a long time," Xinhua said.

The news agency did not identify any covert support beyond the Dalai Lama's well-publicised meetings with Mr. Clinton, this year and twice previously, and with members of Congress.

The United States briefly aided anti-Chinese Tibetan guerrillas in the late 1950s and 1960s.

Xinhua's strident tone contrasts with the tentative, but positive steps both sides are taking to improve relations after months of confrontation.

Foreign Minister Qian Qichen is due to meet his U.S. counterpart, Warren Christopher, in New York this week for talks on a possible summit between Clinton and Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

On Friday, China ended a three-month delay and approved Mr. Clinton's choice of former Sen. James Sasser as ambassador to Beijing, pending Senate confirmation.

A day before the decision was announced, the Communist Party newspaper People's Daily called Mr. Clinton's meeting with the Dalai Lama "a serious political incident."

As in the People's Daily commentary, Xinhua accused the U.S. government of playing the "Tibet card" at a time when it should be trying to make amends for a summer-long dispute over Taiwan.

The judge declined to set time limits for the presentations, and he agreed to allow some visual aids, such as videotaped snippets of testimony. The prosecutors' argument will be the last that jurors hear before they retire to begin deliberations.

"You have O.J. Simpson on trial here," Prof. Levenson said.

While opening statements were road maps showing where both cases intended to go, the final arguments offer a review of the journey completed and an interpretation of what was proven. Some topics likely to be addressed:

Typhoon sweeps southwest Japan; 3 missing

TOKYO (AP) — An American high school student and two Japanese men were missing in swollen rivers after typhoon Ryan brought heavy rain and winds of up to 168 kph (100 mph) to southwest Japan Sunday.

Police also reported five people injured, more than

950 houses flooded and 17 houses hit by other damage. Power failures caused by storm damage cut electricity to about 17,400 homes.

Police identified the missing American as David Stillwell, 17, son of Master Sgt. Gary Stillwell of Ohio, who is stationed at the U.S. military base in Iwakuni, 950 kilometres southwest of Tokyo.

U.S. Marines rescued two other American students from the nearby Nishiki River, swollen by typhoon rains, said a police official, speaking on condition of anonymity. The Americans apparently were playing near the river, he said.

Prosecutors, defence lawyers will tie it together for Simpson jurors

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Remember them, prosecutors will tell jurors.

Remember Nicole and Ron — a slender blonde in a black balter dress, a handsome young man in jeans and a tailored shirt — and the violence visited upon them. Remember the river of blood.

For prosecutors, the challenge of final arguments in the O.J. Simpson murder trial begins Tuesday with resurrecting the victim whose memory has faded in and out throughout the trial.

For defence attorneys, summation offers the chance to turn jurors' eyes in another direction — toward the racism, lies and frame-up allegations that constitute the heart of the defence.

Yes, remember the victims, the defence will say. O.J. Simpson remembers, too. He grieves for the mother of his two young children, and he did not kill her.

Defence attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. is likely to return to the themes of his opening statement, delivered eight months ago: Simpson was set up, victimised. And he will seek to convince jurors that the evidence is such a mess it would be a crime to convict Simpson.

"Johnnie Cochran will be over the top," predicted Loyola University law Professor Laune Levenson. "He will be

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Leap towards peace

THE AGREEMENT reached Sunday between the Palestinian leadership and the Israeli government might not be to the liking of hardliners on both sides. But it certainly will not be the last between them.

It goes without saying that many aspects of the intractable conflict between the two peoples need to be resolved. The accord that was initialised in Taba by PLO leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is another significant building block, however, in the quest for a final settlement to the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict. It represents a point of no return in the negotiations that should ultimately lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside the Jewish state.

The Rabin government's consent to pull out the Israeli army from most Palestinian population centres signifies an admission that Israeli troops were an occupying army and that Israel is prepared to end that occupation. It brings to an end a direct and daily confrontation between Israeli troops and the Palestinian people. It provides the Palestinians for the first time in 28 years with the opportunity to run their own lives by themselves.

Had it not been for the extremists on both sides this agreement might not have been reached. On the Israeli side, someone like Ariel Sharon, the former defence minister, vowed that if the Likud regained power in the 1996 elections it would revoke the agreement to "return Jewish control over these areas" in the West Bank. On the Palestinian side, opponents of Mr. Arafat in Palestine and elsewhere in the Arab World were quick to accuse him of a sell-out. Radio Damascus said the accord "has been concluded at the expense of the Palestinian side — the problem of Jerusalem and the Palestinian cause will remain unresolved."

We believe that under the circumstances both the Palestinian and Israeli leaderships are taking courageous steps on the right track for peace between the two peoples. Mr. Arafat and his negotiators are leaving no stone unturned in order to wrest concessions from a strong and powerful adversary. Neither he nor his ministers are giving up on their demand for full Israeli withdrawal from all of the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, and in accordance with U.N. resolutions. He and his people have one goal, a Palestinian state in all of the West Bank and Gaza, and so far, they have not compromised on that goal.

Meanwhile, Mr. Rabin and his colleagues in the Labour government are edging closer towards meeting Palestinian aspirations, because they realise that unless Palestinian national goals are met real peace will not be achieved in the Middle East. Mr. Rabin, as he alluded in a recent interview, is slowly but surely trying to bring the Israeli public into accepting a historical compromise over the land of Palestine. What preoccupies him at the moment is his determination to win next year's election in order to complete what he sees as his mission of bringing peace to Israelis.

What is needed now is to expedite the implementation of the agreement on the ground to make it difficult for Mr. Sharon and like-minded people to even attempt to reverse it.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A WRITER in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Monday urged the government to implement recommendations made by Parliament concerning higher education in Jordan, saying that they would help the country to avoid confusion in university enrollment in the coming years. Bassam Emoush, who is a member of the Lower House of Parliament, said Parliament members held lengthy debates over the acceptance of students in universities to pursue their higher studies, but so far the government has failed to implement any of the recommendations passed at the end of the debates. It is regrettable that the government, which pushed for parliament draft laws needed for the Amman economic summit and secured Parliament's approval of them, has put aside or shelved Parliament's recommendations on higher education, argued the writer. He said that Parliament has recommended that state universities open evening classes, allow the private universities to accept more students and ask them to reduce their fees and link the numerous community colleges with state or public universities to allow college graduates to continue their studies in these universities.

A WRITER in Al Dustour called on Arab countries to participate actively in the upcoming economic summit in Amman so as to ensure no Israeli hegemony on Arab economies. Taher Adwan said that poor Arab presence in the coming meeting in Amman is bound to open the door for Israel to achieve its objectives at the expense of Arab interests. Some Arabs have been claiming that Jordan was against reconciliation among Arab countries but the fact that Amman has sent out invitations to all Arab states to take part in the conference next month and that it has been holding close contacts and exchanging visits with the leaders of the Arab countries in the past few years are sufficient proof that the Kingdom is serious in its efforts to end Arab differences and re-establish solidarity among Arab leaders and peoples, added the writer.

The View from Fourth Circle

Clean bathrooms, garbage, civil society and Arab public space

By Rami G. Khouri

SEVERAL GREAT mysteries routinely perplex me and many others who observe the Arab political scene in relation to the rest of the world: Why do Arabs often throw rubbish out of their car windows? Why is it so hard for Arab culture to provide clean bathrooms in public places? Why do we find it so difficult to adopt "democratic" systems and "civil society" structures similar to those in the Western industrialised democracies?

These may appear, at first sight, as three separate and totally unrelated issues. I would argue that they are deeply intertwined, and that they may help us to understand the deeper forces that drive modern Arab civic and political culture. The more that I am involved in regional and international discussion about political culture and governance systems in the Arab World, the more I find myself dissatisfied by the increasingly common Western and Arab inclination to blame most of our problems on the fact that we lack "democratic" and "civil society" structures.

These are essentially Western concepts that emerged in a post-Enlightenment European and North American context. As they have been defined by the broad Western experience of the last several hundred years (actually, less than a hundred years, if giving women full voting rights is a component of democracy), these concepts have taken on a particular meaning that is specifically rooted in the Western cultural experience.

Democracy and civil society as we know them today both affirm and demand two crucial concepts that define a person's place in the world: the concept of individual rights, and the concept of public space. Civil society tends to incorporate all of the principles and systems that we associate with modern, Western-style democracy: elections, political parties, total freedom of expression in the press and other fora, private organisations that work for political goals, an independent judiciary, separation of religion from state, and separation of the family realm from the public governance realm.

Most of these and other fundamental Western principles of civil society are not clearly visible in the Arab World because Arab cultural traditions and social values hold very different beliefs about the concepts of individual rights and public space. Civil society assumes that there is a public space in which all individuals have equal rights that are guaranteed by the laws of the state; this further assumes that the citizens had some meaningful say in how their state was formed, and how its laws are formulated and enforced. Most of these concepts sit at the heart of "civil society" do not fully apply in Arab culture as they do in the West.

The "public space" concept may hold many of the keys to resolving some of the riddles of modern Arab political culture and individual behaviour, for most of our ailments reflect public events, while most of our achievements are in, and from the private realm. I would suggest that there is

no such thing "as public space" in Arab culture, and therefore the very concept of "civil society" itself may not be applicable to us. Here is where the garbage and the bathrooms take on important political as well as environmental significance.

Every time I see an Arab person throw garbage out of a car window, or even defecate in public (such as in an archaeological site or a public park), I do not necessarily get angry and accuse that person of being uncivilised. Rather, I ask myself: Why does that person act like this in public; while at the same time that same person is deeply courteous, sensitive and generous within the confines of his or her own home, neighbourhood or community space?

The important, full question that must be asked is not why do most Arabs litter their streets and countryside; it is,

rather, why do most Arabs spread their garbage and feces

in public, but offer only generosity and hospitality in private? Why does private graciousness coexist so easily with public garrishness?

The bathrooms question falls within the same category. Why is it so difficult for modern Arab culture to maintain clean public bathrooms, even at places like international airports, while cleanliness is such an important, even sacred, value within the private realm of the family and the community? Other riddles of Arab life can also be resolved or explained by this same measure. For example, why do Arabs so often disregard the public law or courtesies while driving their cars, but in private (with their families or neighbours) they are models of respect and decorum?

I was reminded of this only a few days ago on my way back from southern Jordan to Amman on the desert highway. I was driving right at the speed limit of 100 kilometres per hour, but was routinely passed by an array of public sector vehicles that must have been driving at least 130 kilometres per hour (these included, among others, a minister's official car, without the minister, and an army station wagon). I wondered to myself: Why do these guardians, enforcers and symbols of the law so nonchalantly disregard the law?

The answer may have much to do with how these and other Arab individuals relate to the very concept of "public space." The manner in which people behave "in public" provides important clues to their deeper political values and cultural identities. I suspect that Arabs do not at all relate to the concept of "public space," because public space is not yet seen to be a valid concept in our cultures. We seem structurally or temporally unable to provide clean public bathrooms because the very idea of a "public realm" is still somewhat fuzzy. The public space that does exist has been almost totally appropriated by the two central actors in modern Arab culture — the state and the tribe. Between the state and the tribe, there is almost no space for anything substantive in our modern Arab

cultures. Anything that takes place in society that has meaning relates either to the state or the tribe — i.e., to the government's dominant control of power and its symbols in the fields of finance, employment, religion, pan-Arab national mythology, history and security and the means of violence, or to private families' and tribes' spheres of influence. The small zones that fall in neither the territory of the state nor of the tribe — the public bathrooms, the open road — are perceived by most Arab individuals as zones of no responsibility.

This is the twilight zone of modern Arab identity — a public space where everyone is anonymous, where the rules of civility of tribe and state do not reach, and therefore where everyone can do as he or she pleases: Throw garbage out the car window, defecate in any convenient parch, drive any speed you desire, and be rude, aggressive and selfish behind the wheel of your car. The moment you are back within the space of the tribe or state, however, this garrish behaviour stops, and you return to civility, politeness and strict order.

I would suggest, therefore, that we approach the discussion of democratisation and civil society in the Arab World in a more realistic and profound manner than merely parroting Western concepts that do not easily fit into our social norms and cultural traditions. I believe, however, that there are parallel Arab concepts that serve the same purpose in our society as democratisation and civil society serve in Western society. It will require much hard work to explore these indigenous Arab traditions and to modernise them in a manner that allows us to develop a concept of public good that goes slightly beyond roadside weather thermometers and advertisements for four different kinds of deep fried chicken.

Our great challenge since the late 19th century remains the same as it has always been: to stop measuring ourselves by the standards of the industrialised Western democracies, and rather to work for a modern Arab society whose decency, productivity and dynamism reflect a combination of our indigenous values and those Western or Eastern or Southern traditions that we can absorb and adapt rationally and meaningfully. Every time I use a filthy public bathroom in the Arab World, I remember this fact, and it gets me through the experience with a renewed commitment to tap our strengths, rather than merely to amplify our dilemmas.

The garbage and the feces we suffer in our public spaces are not only irritants. They are also challenges, and intriguing clues. In between the frenzied rounds of our modern Arab fried chicken jamboree, we would do well to remember this fact, and perhaps even to act upon its inherent dare to be better than we are, and as good as we can be, and once were.

The vanishing trick

After its poll disaster, will China decide to teach Hong Kong a lesson or accept the voters' will? Andrew Higgins believes a hardening of attitudes is the likely result

FOR THE first time in weeks, tellers at the Shanghai Bank of Commerce, ticket agents at China Travel Service and staff at dozens of other Beijing-controlled firms in Hong Kong could look out of their windows yesterday without meeting the gaze of solid, sober-looking men in dark suits. They had been there throughout the campaign for the most democratic election in 154 years of British colonial rule. But Tuesday, before the final results had been counted, they vanished.

The faces, emblazoned across posters and leaflets, belonged to the candidates China hoped would be sitting in the territory's Legislative Council (Legco) when Britain pulls out in approximately 651 days. The posters have been hastily removed. The question now is what else went with them?

After engaging itself, albeit indirectly, in a democratic election campaign like never before, China confronts a humiliating result — a resounding victory for its most vociferous critics. It must decide whether to teach Hong Kong a lesson or to accept the lesson given by Hong Kong voters.

"Given their track record, it seems more likely that they will blame others, not themselves," said Joseph Cheng, a pundit at Hong Kong University. A perilous paradox of last Sunday's poll is that it will probably strengthen the hand of those in Beijing most determined to resist the democratic temptation. A hint of this was the angry response of a leading pro-China candidate, Cheng Kai-nam, to the news that he and fellow members of the Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong (DAB) had been trounced: "The Hong Kong people will have to pay for this. We warned we would like to have different voices in Legco."

Their strategy of trying to beat the democrats at their own game threw into disarray, the first response of China's loyal foot-soldiers in Hong Kong was to turn to no less an authority than

Deng Xiaoping, 91-year-old, generally thought to be senile but still an oracle to be consulted in moments of crisis.

"Would it be good for Hong Kong to hold general elections?" an editorial in the Beijing-controlled newspaper Ta Kung Pao quoted Deng asking in 1987. "I don't think so." The problem with direct elections, he explained, was they did not automatically bring victory to the right candidates — "people who love the motherland and love Hong Kong." This important warning, the newspaper seemed to suggest, had been forgotten.

China's standard-bearer, the DAB, won just two seats by direct elections. It picked up another four in so-called "functional constituencies." "It has been completely disgraced and discredited. It had money, organisation and links with the working class. It had everything but credibility," said Professor Cheng.

Meanwhile, the pro-democracy camp led by Martin Lee, branded as a subversive by Beijing, won 16 of 20 directly elected seats and, thanks to gains by allies in various indirect contests, could control half of the 60-seat chamber.

"One can only hope the Chinese government will accept the verdict of the Hong Kong people... The most important message is that Hong Kong does not want a spineless government," said a triumphant Lee at the headquarters of his Democratic Party.

"We are very happy. This certainly quelled all doubts about whether we continue to enjoy the support of the people of Hong Kong."

There were no celebrations across Victoria Harbour at China's de facto embassy in the territory, the New China (Xinhua) News Agency. Its only comment was an official dispatch condemning the entire election as "unfair and unreasonable," the result of unacceptable political reforms by Governor Chris Patten.

While senior Xinhua officials had spoken out publicly during the campaign,

they last week retreated into anonymity. An unnamed spokesman denounced the reforms as "unilaterally patched together by the British Hong Kong authorities with a view to staying beyond mid-1997."

While insisting "the main trend" in Hong Kong remains "hope for a smooth transition and love for the motherland," it said China could not possibly let the results stand. Beijing has repeatedly vowed to scrap the political structure set in place by Patten as soon as it takes over at the stroke of midnight on June 30, 1997.

During the campaign, however, various pro-China hopefuls suggested that if they were elected in sufficient numbers, Beijing might allow the new legislature to effectively serve out its four-year term. For reasons of face, they said, it might declare the old legislature defunct but would appoint all or most of elected members to a new "provisional" chamber.

Such a hope is now doomed. The provisional legislature which Hong Kong hoped would be a carbon copy of the elected legislature is due to be named sometime next year, along with various other "shadow" power centres.

By the end of 1996, every level of Hong Kong government will co-exist with a Chinese-named successor. Patten will be shadowed by the chief-executive designate, the post-colonial government.

"I wish those tycoons whom Beijing likes to talk to so much, because they only like to talk to the rich, would speak out for what Hong Kong really wants," said Emily Lau, one of the pro-democracy camp's victories.

"It is bad for business, bad for prosperity."

The issue is not whether Hong Kong is pro- or anti-Chinese, she said, but whether its people are allowed to think for themselves. "Most people in Hong Kong are Chioese. They are pro-Chinese. There is nothing wrong with that. What Beijing means by pro-Chinese, though, is the absence of any independent thinking. It is precisely the threat posed by such independence, however, that Deng had in mind when he warned against elections in 1987."

China blames what now threatens to be a brutal break on Patten, variously pilloried by Beijing polemicists as a whore, a tango-

dancer and a neo-imperialist bent on prolonging British influence. The results of the election will confirm the conspiracy theory popular in China that sees his entire reform project as a plot to booby-trap Hong Kong politics against China.

Indeed, it has a point when it points out that Britain waited until 1991, deep into the twilight of colonial rule, before allowing direct legislative elections. And only in 1994 did Patten push through his own plans to make the Legislative Council an entirely elected body.

Britain allowed Hong Kong to hold its first election in 1888, but it was a contest democracy for the next century. The only posts up for election were seats on the Sanitary Board. Only 167 of the 669 eligible to vote (fluency in English was a primary qualification) thought it worth bothering. No doubt Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, due in London at the end of the month, will remind ministers here of this fact.

But the pressure for more democracy is now coming not from London or Patten but from Hong Kong itself, though not from the businessmen who trek up to the Great Hall of the People in Beijing to nod sagely and sign contracts.

"I wish those tycoons whom Beijing likes to talk to so much, because they only like to talk to the rich, would speak out for what Hong Kong really wants," said Emily Lau, one of the pro-democracy camp's victories.

"It is bad for business, bad for prosperity."

The issue is not whether Hong Kong is pro- or anti-Chinese, she said, but whether its people are allowed to think for themselves. "Most people in Hong Kong are Chioese. They are pro-Chinese. There is nothing wrong with that. What Beijing means by pro-Chinese, though, is the absence of any independent thinking. It is precisely the threat posed by such independence, however, that Deng had in mind when he warned against elections in 1987."

China blames what now threatens to be a brutal break on Patten, variously pilloried by Beijing polemicists as a whore, a tango-

All signs point to peace in Bosnia — or do they?

By Dusan Stojanovic
The Associated Press

BELGRADE — Aggressive U.S. diplomacy, NATO's military muscle and the Bosnian government's stunning battlefield victories could combine to bring peace to the Balkans after more than four years of war.

But in a region where nothing is predictable and warring sides have rarely kept their pledges, announcing a swift end to the fighting in Bosnia and Croatia is an optimistic gamble.

Following up on their Sept. 8 agreement to split Bosnia about 50-50 between the rebel Serbs and the Muslim-Croat Federation, the foreign ministers of Serbia and Yugoslavia, Croatia and Bosnia are to meet in New York on Tuesday to focus on details that have stymied all previous peace attempts.

Sources close to U.S. mediator Richard Holbrooke said the main topics during the meeting, chaired by Secretary of State Warren Christopher, will be a ceasefire, the maps of division and constitutional issues.

Thanks to Mr. Holbrooke's shuttle diplomacy between the warring sides and NATO airstrikes on Serb positions "there is now a real chance for peace in Bosnia," President Bill Clinton said Saturday. "We must seize it."

But in staking out their positions in recent days, the warring sides have shown how difficult achieving peace may be.

The Muslim-led Bosnian government demands full

control of Serb-besieged Sarajevo and territory that would link the capital with Gorazde, the last remaining government-held enclave in eastern Bosnia. They also want Banja Luka, the largest Serb-held town in Bosnia, to be demilitarised.

Bosnian Serb leaders insist on the return of land in central and northwestern Bosnia that was retaken from them by government and Croat forces. That offensive reduced Serb holdings

King: Jordan will continue its endeavours to create a model of social, economic and political stability

FOLLOWING IS the full text of the address which His Majesty King Hussein gave to the European Parliament in Strasbourg Monday.

**Mr. President of the European Parliament,
Mr. President of the Council,
Mr. President of the Commission,
Distinguished members of parliament,**

IT IS once again both a privilege and a pleasure to address the Parliament of Europe. It offers me the occasion to share my thoughts with you on relations between Europe and my country, about what they have been in the past and what we hope they will become in the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my good friend, Miguel Angel Martinez, president of the European Parliament, for inviting me to address this distinguished body, and for his leadership and contribution to Euro-Mediterranean understanding.

Much has changed in the Middle East. On balance, the changes have been positive; although the consequences of past events are still with us, there are new factors of maturity, realism, determination and vision which brighten our horizons.

It is perhaps too early to assess the impact of Europe on our region in the 20th century. We are still experiencing the consequences of two devastating European wars and their repercussions on our lives. The major consequence of the World War I was a new map of our region drawn up by the victors. This map drew frontiers where there were none before; established a number of new states and disrupted patterns of economic, social and family life, which had formed through four centuries.

In our case, the dislocation of our former status

took the form of a separation between the two sides of the River Jordan, which geographically and historically formed the Holy Land. The truncation of the Holy Land, and its political separation from its northern extensions to Lebanon and Syria, was carried one step further with the creation of Israel in 1948.

Into the former cohesion of our social, economic and cultural life was introduced a new element. Growing tensions between the incoming settlers and the indigenous population led to war, the mass displacement of the Palestinian people and the festering of political and ideological extremism which has plagued the entire Middle East for decades.

My grandfather, King Abdullah and my great uncle King Faisal of Syria, and later Iraq, had hoped that the aspirations of the Arab inhabitants of the lands liberated during the Great Arab Revolt of 1916, and of the Jewish settlers in Palestine, might be compatible, provided certain conditions could be satisfied.

This was not to be: Rivalries and suspicions between the European players in our region, and the catastrophic situation of the Jews of Europe combined to end the dream of my forefathers. The unity of the Arab lands was frustrated and the Jewish state of Israel was born in violence.

This was the situation which I inherited when I ascended to the Throne of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and which has challenged us for more than 40 years. It was clear to me that my duty was to exert every possible effort to spare my people the suffering and cruelty of war and to bequeath them a legacy

of peace.

On Oct. 26, 1994, when Jordan and Israel signed their peace treaty, we did not make peace only with Israel; we also made it with ourselves, confident in our belief that this was the only way we could break out of the cycle of violence which has devastated our lands and our peoples.

Our vision and purpose in making peace with Israel was not just to end the state of war. The equation of "no war and no peace," which had defined the relations of Jordan and other Arab states with Israel for 25 years, had proved futile.

We decided to make a warm peace with Israel — a peace which makes it possible for our two peoples to

tear down the fears which separated them for too long; to do business; to make friends with each other if they wish; to benefit from what each has to offer; and to work together to create a better life for themselves and for all those who live in the same region and share the same hopes.

The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty marked the end of one period in our history, and the dawning of another. It is the first step towards the restoration of harmony in the Holy Land, which God ordained, but which man disrupted. The benefits to both parties are equally beneficial: Jordan, which had been virtually landlocked, now, once again, has access to the capital of both the state of Israel and Palestine. Jerusalem should be a shining symbol and the essence of peace forever between Palestinians and Israelis as well as all the followers of the three great monotheistic religions.

The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty is, we hope, a historic step in the construction of a new era of peace in the Middle East. Our peace with Israel is comprehensive insofar as it removes all subjects of contention between us. Yet, to be comprehensive on the scale of the whole region, there is still a way to go.

Peace is not just the signing of treaties. The signa-

tories must have a genuine commitment to all that peace implies: the free movement of people, goods and ideas across frontiers, the shared commitment to resolve common problems, and to respect one another's interests.

There must be a shared consensus of common values, respect for human rights and basic freedoms, equality between all citizens, and, above all, the right of children to food, clothing, education and freedom from fear.

What is the real purpose of peace? In our view, it is to promote the security and the prosperity of peoples.

Without security, there can

be no assured prosperity;

and without prosperity, there can be no assured security.

In the modern history of the Middle East, there have been many attempts to erect security systems and arrangements, either between external powers and regional states, or between regional states themselves. None of these arrangements were effective in preventing wars and conflicts in the Middle East.

All the Iraqi people, all the Arab states, together with the international community, must join together to bring an end to all the causes of Iraqi suffering and denial, both internally and externally.

I stand firmly for the preservation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq. I would encourage and support an immediate dialogue between the credible representatives of the three major elements that comprise the people of Iraq, namely the Sunnis and Shi'ites Arabs, and the Kurds, to achieve a national reconciliation.

In that nightmare scenario between the invasion of Kuwait and the end of the war in the Gulf, I did my best to convince the international community to help us to contain and solve the problem within an Arab context. I was not successful, and the sequence of events before, during, and after the war confirmed my worst fears. The security of the supply of oil was, at least temporarily, assured; but the security of the region was seriously jeopardised. The destabilisation of Iraq does not contribute to the stability, security or peace in the Middle East; on the contrary, it poses a serious threat to them all.

But in making peace with Israel, and in determining to live with Israel on terms of mutual trust, security and cooperation, we did not forget or neglect the other vital component of the Holy Land: that of the Palestinian people and their legitimate rights on their own land.

We believe that the Palestinian people have the right, in this new era of peace, to enjoy the same security and the same hoped-for prosperity on their own land. We will

continue to support them, as we have through all these years, in all their legitimate goals, and in all their legitimate activities.

The realisation of the Palestinians' rights to self-determination, to return or compensation, and to a decent life are legitimate aims. We share with them many other concerns such as access to water, the environment, the settlement of the problem of their refugees and displaced populations; and we share with them, and not only with them, our concern for the future of holy Jerusalem.

For members of the three Abrahamic faiths on every continent, the old city of Jerusalem is the goal of pilgrimage and the pole of prayer. Mosques, churches and temples each bear witness to the central place of the Holy City in the thoughts and visions of believers around the world.

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move the fears and suspi-

cions which have shattered

their relations and threat-

ened their future. I would

offer them all my sup-

port, and I implore them

to engage in a serious dia-

logue to formulate a new

constitution defining their

respective aspirations and

rights, within the context

of their one country of

Iraq, based on democracy,

pluralism and respect for

human rights.

Arab family, sleep comfortably in our beds with the spectre of the sick and hungry children of Iraq before our eyes.

I wish to state, categorically, against all rumours, fears and speculation that, as a Hashemite, I personally have no ambition in Iraq. Yet, I can no longer turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the anguish and needs of the people of Iraq. They have been imprisoned for years by an international embargo and have endured for far too long the absence of democracy, pluralism and human rights.

All the Iraqi people, all

the Arab states, together with the international community, must join together to bring an end to all the causes of Iraqi suffering and denial, both internally and externally.

A further "window of opportunity" will be the Barcelona conference scheduled for November of this year, the main theme of which will be a Euro-Mediterranean partnership.

We hope that the

Barcelona conference,

which Jordan will attend,

will pay special attention to

the countries of the eastern

Mediterranean. This area is

the natural bridge between

Europe and the Middle

East. The conference can

open a door for Europe

into a region of vast natural

resources and important

markets; and it can open a

window for our region onto

the economic and financial

landscape of Europe.

The choice of Amman

for the second Middle

East and North Africa summit

reflects a growing consensus among inter-

national financial institu-

tions and business corpora-

tions that Jordan now

offers a favourable location

and climate for public fund-

ing and private investment

in projects on both the

Jordanian and the regional

scene.

Jordan's treaty of peace

with Israel paves the way

for the emergence of a new

and potentially powerful

economic bloc, which

would include Palestine

and Egypt. Projects involv-

ing the cooperation of

these four entities will be

presented at the Amman

summit. We hope that

these will ultimately pro-

vide examples for other

Middle East countries of

the benefits of cooperative

and integrated develop-

ment and reaping the tan-

gible rewards of peace. Such

a bloc would provide mar-

kets, manpower and techni-

cal resources which

would attract not only

European, American and Asian investment, but also some of the Arab capital, private and public, which now finds havens outside the region.

Jordan will continue its endeavour to create a model of social, political and economic stability which, we hope, will act as a positive example.

The Jordanian National Charter, ratified in 1991, reflects a Jordanian consensus for democracy, pluralism, basic freedoms, gender equity, human rights, and a free market economy. Since the adoption of the National Charter, successive Jordanian governments have sought to implement its tenets into the daily life of our people.

We believe that we have the ability, the will and the experience to generate from our own resources a momentum which will transform a developing country into a developed one and to set a dynamic example in our region. The support and the investments we seek are the sparks needed to fuel the great potential of our own enthusiasm, and our own energies/the great human potential of our region.

Europe and our region are extensions of one another. We invite you to join us to further and deepen the ancient bonds between us, and together to build the better world we seek.

As I leave you today, my friends, I am happy to announce that I am heading to the United States, at the invitation of President Clinton, to attend the ratification of yet another agreement between the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the prime minister of Israel. It is truly another important breakthrough on the road to a comprehensive Middle East peace — the result of negotiations and commitment to the cause of peace and we praise the efforts of all who contributed to its achievement.

Thank you and God bless your worthy endeavours.

Arafat briefs Regent on autonomy accord

(Continued from page 1) would continue to remain as their depth and they could count on Jordan's support," he said.

"We stand by the Palestinian brothers and will offer them all help within our means," he said, praising Mr. Arafat "for shouldering heavy responsibilities."

"May God help you under this difficult circumstance," the Regent told Mr. Arafat.

Referring to the expected PNA takeover of most of the West Bank under Sunday's self-rule accord, Mr. Arafat said: "We have inherited a totally devastated nation."

"We have to start from zero and this entails heavy responsibilities," he said, calling on Arab and friendly countries to help the PNA "shoulder these heavy responsibilities."

The difficulties facing the Palestinians were reflected in some of the statistics Mr. Arafat provided. He said water shortage was very acute in Gaza, 65 students were crammed into each class, schools were running three shifts to meet the demand and "half a bed" was available for every 1,000 Palestinians in hospitals. These were only few examples of the "problems of the Palestinians

World Bank sees poor hurt by budget cutters

WASHINGTON (R) — Those least able to feed for themselves would be hit the hardest by severe cutbacks in World Bank funding set aside for the very poorest countries, the bank said Sunday.

The World Bank is in tough negotiations to replenish the coffers of the International Development Association (IDA), its arm that provides essentially interest-free credit to countries going through very difficult times.

Looking for ways to come to grips with the U.S. budget deficit, Congress has warned that new funding for IDA would be hard to come by and has even proposed reducing and stretching our existing commitments.

In a briefing for reporters on its annual report, bank officials said a big cutback in money for IDA would make it impossible to maintain even a basic attack on global poverty.

"To the 1.2 billion people in the world who live on less than a \$1 a day such an outcome would be devastating."

"Proposals in Congress to reduce and stretch out the third tranche of the U.S. contribution to IDA 10, do not augur well for IDA 11, which is scheduled to go into effect on July 1, 1996," Mr. Cullen told reporters.

At the same time, bank officials concede they are discussing new ways to help poor countries burdened with so much debt that it's unlikely they can ever pay it back.

One idea put forward by bank staff is a kind of arm's-length trust fund that could help strapped countries make

ings," bank spokesman Tim Cullen told reporters.

The United States is not expected to meet its full commitment to IDA, probably falling far short of its \$3.75 billion pledge for the three years ending June 30, 1996.

This and critical statements from a tight-fisted Congress has cast a fall over negotiations for the next three-year replenishment. It's far certain whether other donors, many also facing tight budgets, will make up for U.S. cuts.

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payments to multilateral lending institutions like the bank.

This is delicate ground for the bank, which borrows money in the financial markets to pay for its loans and is highly protective of its excellent debt rating.

Such a fund, which could get seed money from the bank, would kick in when countries had reached accord with the Paris Club on official debt and the London Club on commercial debt.

But critics believe a facility of this sort could further undermine the commitment by countries to fund IDA.

Underscoring the diverse role of the bank in the developing world, the annual report said its assistance ranged from helping Mexico cool its peso crisis to providing money to fight the disease of AIDS.

It stressed that it was trying to make certain that its loans to countries paid off, more closely monitoring projects to ensure they achieve their objectives.

Libya needs foreign capital to revive economy — study

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Libya needs to attract foreign capital to revive its economy which has been hurt by a decline in oil prices and production, according to an official Arab League report.

Foreign investments in sanctions-hit Libya are still concentrated in the energy sector although it was among the first Arab countries to enact investment laws, the Arab Corporation for Investment Guarantee (ACIG) said.

"Given its large oil and gas resources, Libya had apparently not seen the need for foreign investment in the past," the Kuwait-based group said in its 1994 report on Arab investment and economic developments.

"But the situation has now changed following the adoption of new economic policies in Libya and the sharp fluctuations in crude prices.

There is a general feeling about the importance of

attracting foreign capital," the report pointed out.

Libya produces around 1.4 million barrels per day (b/d) under an OPEC output quota agreement.

Lack of investment has sharply depressed its oil production capacity although it has more than 50 billion barrels of crude reserves.

Production peaked at 3.3 million b/d in 1970 before it started to decline to reach 2.6 million b/d in 1977 and a record low of 937,000 b/d in 1987.

Like other key oil producers, Libya has announced plans to revive its capacity but they have been blocked by U.N. sanctions imposed more than three years ago in connection with the 1988 Lockerbie plane bombing.

Lower production and prices have sharply pushed down Libya's earnings, slowed its economy and created persistent deficits in its budgets.

ACIG figures showed the shortfall hit a record of \$4.8 billion in 1986, when crude prices plunged below \$10 a barrel due to a production war among key oil states.

It was slashed to \$886 million in 1990 after oil prices rocketed to around \$40 after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

ACIG, a key Arab League institution, said it had helped Libya prepare a new investment law, which was supposed to be announced in late 1994. It did not say why it had been delayed.

"The new law identified fields of foreign investments, priorities for such investments and rules on foreign partnership. It also encourages investment in export sectors and facilitates legal, administrative and financial procedures for attracting investment and transfer of revenue generated from such investment," the report concluded.

Asia-Pacific economies warned of oil crunch

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Booming Asian economies were warned by a senior OPEC official that their growth could be cut short by a potential oil squeeze caused by the spread of energy taxes.

Rilwan Lukman, secretary-general of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), also voiced concern that OPEC was losing market share to non-OPEC suppliers as demand increased.

"OPEC is particularly concerned about these issues of taxation and market share, and it believes that our concern should be shared by other producers and consumers," Mr. Lukman told the 11th Asia-Pacific Petroleum Conference.

OPEC has about three-quarters of the world's oil reserves and would be an important source of the extra oil that will be required in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere.

But if non-OPEC producers did not cut back supplies, and if industrialized countries did not adopt "fair and sensible" tax policies, OPEC would have few resources and incentives to develop the reserves, Mr. Lukman said.

"Without OPEC oil, the energy growth, and therefore the economic growth of Asian countries may be adversely affected," the Nigerian official warned the region's premier oil industry gathering.

OPEC groups Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Venezuela.

"The answer is that we cannot. The medium-to-long-term result will be shortages, price volatility and potential oil shocks," he said.

OPEC has kept production stable at 24.52 million b/d since September 1993, and demand in 1996 is forecast to fall below its output due to increasing non-OPEC production.

mand, but only 10 per cent of supply, making it vulnerable to higher prices and potential shortages.

Indonesian delegate Subroto, a former OPEC secretary-general, said that despite moves to open up the oil sector to exploration by private prospectors to raise production, Asia would remain a net importer.

"There will undoubtedly be more oil discovered in the region. But the region will always be deficient and rely on imports," Dr. Subroto said.

Mr. Lukman said oil taxes were keeping crude oil prices lower than they should be and leaving little incentive for oil producers to fund a rise in production capacity.

"Taxes are squeezing an economic rent out of oil which rightly belongs to oil producers who are doing all of the work and taking all of the risk," he said.

Many industrial countries have raised taxes to an extent where levies represented up to 80 per cent of the consumer price per barrel of refined oil, he said.

Such tax policies, which industrial countries were now trying to "export" to make their over-regulated industries more competitive, are promoted on environmental grounds as well as a budget-balancing method, Mr. Lukman said.

"How can we be expected to invest the billions of dollars required to meet the expected growth of demand in Asia, if prices and demand are likely to be distorted in an uncertain way by new and increasing taxes?" he asked.

"The answer is that we cannot. The medium-to-long-term result will be shortages, price volatility and potential oil shocks," he said.

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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1995

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Study your home and family and today plan how to have everything more comfortable and ideal there.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 18) Get those arrangements working which can improve your station in life. Take time to visit with friends who can help you.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 19) This is a fine day to carry on with some fine plan which can make you far more prosperous. Avoid one who is a boring pessimist.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your personal aims can be reached very easily today, so apply yourself seriously to them and you can be successful.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have a noble nature and this the day to impress others favourably and get much completed. Someone is setting a trap for you.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 21) Get the expert advice you need so that you can gain your finest ambitions. Be willing to help one who needs your assistance.

LIBRA: (September 22 to October 21) This is a good day to tie up loose ends of any business deals which are important to you. Show a bigwig you can be relied upon.

SCORPIO: (October 22 to November 21) You may get news from out of town which can help you to get a new perspective. An older individual could give you needed data.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Complete those arrangements concerning business which will get you the right results. Bills are overdue, so pay them.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Use care in dealing with a partner today who is sensitive and then you can come to a fine agreement.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Get right at that pile of work today and you soon make a big dent in it and then can gain benefits from it.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You are in the mood for fun and should stick to the proven and be with congenials. Finish a project you've been working on.

EU single currency faces tough public acceptance

BRUSSELS (R) — Selling a single European currency to a sceptical public may be one of the biggest burdens politicians face.

The latest row over European monetary union, highlighted by Germany's wish to ensure lasting budget restraint, has at its core a growing anxiety over the German public's reluctance to part with the trustworthy mark.

But the Germans are not alone in their doubts of a still unnamed future currency. The contentious issue of monetary union is near the top of the political agenda in numerous EU states where public opinion poses a huge obstacle.

In Sweden, for example, there has been talk of possibly holding referendum on monetary union, a strategy that is directly at odds with the Maastricht treaty.

Swedish Finance Minister Goran Persson said recently that "it is really up to us how we decide about the third stage (of monetary union)."

Meanwhile, anti-EU sentiment is running at a fever pitch in Britain. Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said this week that it is clear that full monetary union may

not be sensible option for all members.

A recent survey Eurobarometer, an EU research group, puts the issue in perspective by citing six member states where public sentiment towards a single currency is negative.

Aside from Germany, the residents of Britain, Austria, Finland, Sweden and Denmark are simply unwilling to abandon their national currencies.

In Britain 38 per cent of the public is in favour of a single currency by 1999 while 55 per cent are against. Germany shows a similar support level at 38 per cent with 50 per cent casting a no vote and in Denmark the figures are 30 and 66 per cent.

Among some of the EU's newer entrants hostility towards a new currency is also widespread.

The citizens of Austria show a paltry 35 per cent in favour of abandoning the shilling with 51 per cent against. Finland also registers a heavy no vote at 59 per cent, while the Swedes express support at 32 per cent and disfavour at 57 per cent.

One analyst responsible for collecting and interpreting

THE Daily Crossword

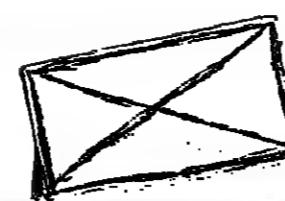
by Diane C. Baldwin



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Yesterday's puzzle solved:

E	D	A	M	A	L	O	H	A	A	S	E	A
L	O	L	A	N	T	A	M	R	A	L	R	I
F	O	O	D	S	U	T	E	O	V	A	Y	E
M	U	R	O	E	R	S	H	E	W	R	O	T
I	O	L	A	I	A	A	A	R	A	O	N	R
R	E	I	G	N	S	P	I	L	L	E	N	T
A	L	D	A	A	T	E	A	S	B	A	A	S
G	L	I	L	I	G	A	N	S	I	L	A	D
A	Y	E	N	T	A	N	D	A	N	A	N	D
S	T	R	I	A	N	D	A	N	A	N	A	D



business Daily Beat

A review
of economic news
from the Arabic press

Government offers to sell its shares in three big companies

★ THE JORDAN Investment Corporation, the investment arm of the government, is selling its equity in three public shareholding companies. According to three advertisements, the corporation is inviting interested investors to submit their purchase bids before Oct. 3, 1995 to buy 250,000 shares of the Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Company, 200,000 shares of the Jordan Worsted Mills Company and 40,000 shares of the Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes Company. The bids should not be for less than 50,000 shares for the first two companies and 10,000 shares for the third company. The bid should include a bank guarantee for five per cent of the bid value in favour of the Jordan Investment Corporation. The ads indicated that the average selling price for the three companies during 1995 have been JD 7,980 per share for the Jordan Worsted Mills, JD 3,960 for the paper and cardboard company and JD 27,250 for the cigarettes company (Al Dustour).

★ THE FEDERATION of the Chambers of Commerce has received an offer from an Australian company to finance government or commercial projects for up to \$2 million. The projects include building hotels, restaurants, schools, hospitals, industrial complexes and infrastructure projects. The company offered to extend loans for buying factories and a variety of equipment (Al Dustour).

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Conference on risk management, foreign currency to begin Friday

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Against the backdrop of moves in Mideast towards more interaction with international money markets in the wake of new economic opportunities in the region, Amman next week hosts a meeting that would focus on risk management and foreign currency.

The meeting, the annual conference of the Inter-Arab Cambist Association (ICA), will discuss issues such as derivatives (international monetary papers, bonds, shares etc.) and risk management and protection in the international market. The ICA, organising the main seminar entitled "Risk Management."

The meeting, to be inaugurated by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, will also assess chances of investment in Jordan ahead of the

Middle East and North Africa (MENA) economic summit scheduled to be held in Amman in October.

According to the Kuwait-based ICA, the Sept. 28-Oct. 1 meeting in Amman will seek to strengthen relations between local and international dealers and closely look at the issue of future currency markets (options). About 350 delegates from Arab and non-Arab countries representing experts in foreign exchange dealings and investments are expected to attend the meeting.

Direct Arab involvement in international monetary derivatives has been relatively limited, with most private sector banking institutions being constrained by local regulations that impose restrictions on their exposure in the international monetary

market. The ICA describes itself as a non-profit organisation "established for developing, supporting and improving the profession of dealing in foreign exchange and upgrading it to a high level of discipline."

It also aims at "promoting the concept of closer Arab international cooperation and enhance friendly rela-

tions among experts and professionals working in the field of investment and dealing in currencies."

Improving business techniques and developing professional training for new members are also among the activities of the association. "More broadly, the association pursues every means that would give the profession a better image, more dignity and a higher rank" and seek to "overcome problems and difficulties that may arise among its members."

The ICA holds its annual meetings alternatively between Arab and non-Arab countries in what the association describes as an effort to "strengthen relations" between Arab and non-Arab operators and upgrade the techniques of dealings in foreign exchange dealings and investment.

The Amman meeting is sponsored by the Jordan Investment and Finance Bank.

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Dollar, DASA drive Daimler-Benz into loss

STUTTGART, Germany (AFP) — The biggest German industrial company Daimler-Benz fell from profit into a net loss of 1.567 billion marks (\$1.04 billion) in the first half of the year because of the strength of the mark against the dollar, the company has announced.

The new president Juergen Schrempp said that work was being pressed ahead to find

"radical" solutions to the group's problems and particularly to one of the main sources of loss, the aerospace division DASA.

The bright star in the results was provided by the Daimler-Benz car business which increased operating profits by 44 per cent.

Results for the whole year would depend on the value of the dollar and on the extent

of provisions for the DASA aerospace subsidiary, the company warned.

In the first half of last year the group made a net profit of 462 million marks on the basis of German accounting standards.

By U.S. standards the company made a net loss of 1.57 billion marks from a profit of 369 million marks.

The company has produced two sets of accounts since its shares were floated on the New York stock exchange in October 1993.

For the first half the company reported an operating loss of 1.154 billion marks from a loss of 429 million marks. Sales fell by eight per cent to 5,496 billion marks.

Sales rose by one per cent to 48.037 billion marks and were expected to amount to about 108 billion marks for the whole year.

The main factor behind the loss in the first half is the enormous fall in the value of the dollar against the mark, the group said.

Sales had slipped by 0.8 per cent to 4.386 billion marks.

But operating profit at the electrical engineering and railway subsidiary AEG nearly doubled to 609 million marks from 341 million marks. "Strong competition in the railway business had been an aggravating factor," the company said.

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Operating profits at the services division Debsit had fallen by 43.1 per cent owing to the cost of integrating its German leasing subsidiary.

"Daimler-Benz expects to

make a loss in the second half as well but this is expected to be markedly smaller than that in the first half," the group said, without providing details.

"We are working now on radical solutions which will enable us, despite the negative monetary environment, to put the divisions concerned back on the road to profits," Mr. Schrempp, who has been company president since May, said in a statement.

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Arabian Horse Show starts today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian horse riders dominated the first day of competition Monday at the sixth Arabian horse at home show which will officially open today.

Mayson Bisharat and Ibrahim Bisharat shared the first place in the six bar show jumping. Sharif Zeid Fawaz came second among fifteen young riders who participated in the event.

In the 100-metre flat race Royal Stable horses Ghali, ridden by Othman, and Salama ridden by Masir Atiey clinched first and third places. Al Hasnah, ridden by Abdullah Hassan from Said Kheir stable was second.

The 400-metre race Al Maymoun, Ghadeer Romack and Noor Al Salam, all from Iraq, won.

In the 600-metre race first place went to Lateef, second to Sindiabd and third to Amir Al Badia.

Monday's events were attended by Their Royal Highnesses Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein, and Princess Zain Bint Al Hussein, Minister of Interior Salameh Hammad and Shuaib Al Kawari, president of Arab and Qatari equestrian federation. The

races were held in the morning at the equestrian centre at Sport City.

Earlier in the day, 50 students attended a judging course lectured by a visiting international judge, Pete Upton, who focused on beauty show evaluation of the horse.

The five-day event is organised by the Jordanian Arabian Horse Society which is headed by Princess Alia.

The event will include a judging course, an endurance race, horse shows and a show jumping competition.

There are five international judges who came from Great Britain, Poland, Spain, Oman and Lebanon. International judges are necessitated because refereeing of participants from one's own country is disallowed.

One of the main aims of the Arabian Horse Show is to enable horse breeders to qualify their Arabian horses to take part in international competition.

The show also aims to expose a part of Arab culture and to demonstrate the endurance of Arabian horses. Today's official opening ceremony at 3:30 p.m. will be followed by the "foal at foot championship," "junior male" and "junior female" championship.

Charles strikes gold for Ireland

GALLEN, Switzerland (R) — Liverpool-born Peter Charles, who in 1991 decided to take advantage of his Irish ancestry and ride for Ireland, became champion of Europe on Sunday, the first Irishman to win a senior international show jumping title.

In a jump-off against the clock to decide the gold and silver medals, Britain's Michael Whitaker was clear until the last fence on Everest. Two stop when he took off the top rail to finish on four faults in 50.97 seconds.

GOREN BRIDGE

WHAT YOU KNOW CAN HURT

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
Pace	Pace	1♦	Pace
2♦	Pace	2♦	Pace
3♦	Pace	3♦	Pace
4♦	Pace	4♦	Pace
5♦	Pace	5♦	Pace
6♦	Pace	6♦	Pace
7♦	Pace	7♦	Pace

Opening lead: Queen of ♦

When a defender has a choice of cards to play, it makes good sense to play a card you are known to have. This hand will illustrate what we mean.

Assume you are South. You don't bidding because you need an option to make cards. Your partner has not been shy — with a balanced hand and no high spades honor, five spades would have been enough after East doubled North's two-heart cue-bid.

You win the first trick on the lead and take the losing spade finesse. West returns a heart, which you ruff. You have your guessing cap on when you elect to drop down the ace of spades and drop the jack rather than take a doubleton. Now if you had to do is give the problem a short shrift. You start by leading a club to the jack, which holds. Next you cash the king of clubs.

If West routinely follows with the ten, you have one choice. You cash the club ace and when everybody follows, you collect a diamond on the nine of clubs and the slam is home.

Now let's suppose that, instead of the ten of clubs, West drops the queen. In which case, it is known to have because the finesse succeeded, under the king. Now you have to decide whether to play for a 3-3 club split or to finesse East for the ten of clubs. Since the odds favor a 4-3 split, you're going to favor the minor suit go down.

Would the hand have taken in by East's falsecard? You can bet on it.

Australian Doohan wins 2nd world title

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Australian Michael Doohan won his second straight motorcycle World Championship Sunday, winning the Argentine Grand Prix to clinch the title with one race remaining.

Doohan, starting second on the grid on a Honda in the 500cc division, finished the 27 laps in 47 minutes, 30.236 seconds at an average speed of 148.346 kph.

The victory — his seventh of the season — gave him an unbeatable 31-point lead over countryman and Daryl Beattie, who finished Sunday's race in second on his Suzuki.

Only the European Grand Prix in Barcelona, Spain, on Oct. 8 remains.

"It's very satisfying to have won the title here in Argentina but I must admit that I could only relax on the final laps when I managed to keep Beattie in check," the 30-year-old Doohan said.

"Beattie has come a long way as a driver and is a lot more confident than before," he added. "That's why things got close towards the end of the tournament."

Italian Luca Cadalora, who started in pole position, was third on a Yamaha.

Earlier in the day, Italy's Max Biaggi came from fifth on the grid to win the 250cc category.

Morceli, Mutola blaze victories in exhibition meet

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Algerian middle distance great Noureddine Morceli beat his nearest rival by 40 metres in an impressive high-altitude victory in the 1,500 metres Sunday at the inaugural All African International Invitation track meet.

Suffering from a cold, Morceli, three-times world 1,500 metres champion and current holder of four world records, nonetheless came in at three minutes, 39.01 seconds, nearly five seconds ahead of Kenya's Vincent Malakwen.

The time lagged well off his

world record of 3:27.37 set July 12 in Nice, but Morceli — who trains and prefers races at sea level — considered the victory his best result ever at an altitude as high as Johannesburg's 1,750

"I wanted to put on a good and spectacular race for the public here," Morceli said at a news conference. "I hope they enjoyed it. This is my best race at high altitude."

The Algerian was one of several stars at the meet, the first at the just-completed Johannesburg stadium and an event South Africans hope

will give weight to Cape Town's bid to host the 2004 Olympics.

The exhibition came just a day after South Africa finished first the Olympic-style All Africa Games in Harare, Zimbabwe, in its first appearance since the end of apartheid-era isolation.

As expected, a handful of international stars dominated the meet. None established major records, though impressive times were set by sprinters Linford Christie, Frank Fredericks, Irina Privalova and 800-metres specialist Maria Mutola.

Mozambique's Mutola looked to a 40-metre victory margin over Ireland's Sonai O'Sullivan, taking the 800 metres at 1:57.67, 2.48 seconds off her African record and retaining her unbroken record in the distance since the 1992 Olympics.

Fredericks, of Namibia, made up for his second-place finish Christie in the 100 metres Saturday by blazing to a 19.93 victory in the 200 metres — just 0.12 seconds slower than his African record — despite a determined challenge from Emmanuel Turfou of Ghana.

The Russian Privalova, who easily won Saturday's 100 metres, held off Pauline Davis of the Bahamas on Sunday in the women's 200 metres, clocking in at 22.38.

Not all the stars performed as well. Ukrainian pole-vaulting magician Sergei Bubka failed to clear 6.05 metres in three attempts and had to settle for a five-centimetre margin of victory at 5.95 metres over his Russian foil, Radion Gattatina.

In other events, Renata Nielsen of Denmark cleared 6.51 metres in the women's long jump, South African

Karen van den Veen ran 56.13 in the 400-metre women's hurdles, Gideon Chirchir came in at 5:25.36 to lead a Kenyan sweep of the 2,000-metre steeplechase. Dmitri Schevchenko of Russia hurled the discuss 60.88 metres, and Venuste Nyongabe of Burundi clocked 7.52.99 finish in the 3,000 metres.

Rated one of the world's top five athletics stadiums by the International Amateur Athletics Federation, the new Johannesburg Stadium will host the 1998 Athletics World Cup.

hurt after being trapped under the car in the crash.

Williams filled the front row for the start after redesigned FW17B cars dominated qualifying with improved diffusers, rear-end aerodynamics and transmissions. But after qualifying Saturday, with reliability questions looming, Williams reverted back to the old specifications used at Monza.

Williams mechanics worked until 2 a.m. to change the cars back to their former structure.

Coulthard wins first ever Grand Prix, edges out favourites

ESTORIL, Portugal (AP) — Scotsman David Coulthard won his first-ever Formula One race Sunday, edging out Michael Schumacher and Williams teammate Damon Hill on Sunday in a Portuguese Grand Prix marred by a starting-line crash.

Ukyo Katayama escaped serious injury when his Tyrrell appeared to hit Luca Badoer's Minardi, flipped and slammed into crash barriers.

The crash caused officials to stop the race and restart it

25 minutes later. Coulthard again left from the pole and never trailed, finishing 7.248 seconds ahead of Schumacher and his Benetton. Hill was third in the other Williams, 22.121 seconds back of Coulthard.

The Ferraris of Gerhard Berger and Jean Alesi were fourth and fifth, ahead of Germany's Heinz-Harald Frentzen in a Sauber.

"It was a fantastic feeling and a warm relief," a grinning Coulthard said of the moment he stepped onto the

winner's podium and sprayed the crowds with champagne. "It's very important for my confidence to be a winner and to be a winner fairly and squarely."

Coulthard was passed over

for next season by team chief Frank Williams, who signed Jacques Villeneuve, son of late Canadian Formula One star Gilles Villeneuve, to drive alongside Hill.

The Scot, who has been

courted by McLaren and Ferrari, told a news conference he already had secured a ride for next season but refused to reveal the team until next week. McLaren is said to be the favourite.

The results moved Coulthard up to third in the world championship standings with 39 points, but allowed season-leader Schumacher to pull another two points ahead of Hill with four races remaining (72.55).

"As far as the championships go... it's looking a bit out of reach," Hill said. "I pray for a bit of a miracle to beat Michael in the championship now, but we'll give it a go."

With each victory worth 10 points and second worth six, Schumacher wasn't ready to claim the title.

"It's far too early to say, there are so many things that can happen, there are four races to go, so let's wait a couple of races," he said.

"With the performance they're going to put on it's going to be difficult for us. But we're not going to sleep in the meantime, we'll be pushing hard over the next weeks."

Schumacher, who started just behind Hill on the grid, moved past rival into second at the chicane on lap 61 of the

71-lap event, after the Briton lost a gamble with only two tire changes. The disintegrating condition of his rubber appeared to give Schumacher, who made one more stop to change tires, enough to get past the Williams.

After the race, an angry Alesi told reporters he felt he was being given second-rate treatment by Ferrari and team Director Jean Todt.

"I've had enough," said Alesi, who will be driving alongside Berger next season at Benetton. "It's the second time this season they've

asked me to pull aside for my teammate when I'm in front."

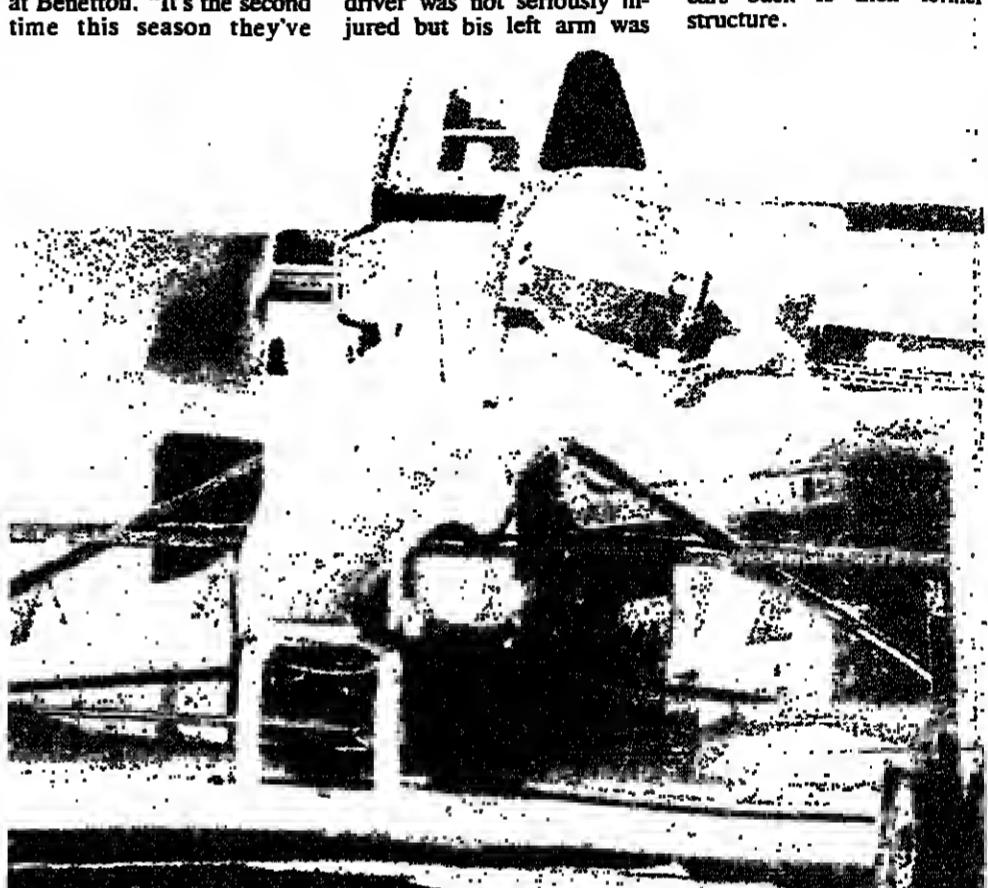
Katayama had to be cut from the wreckage of his car and flown by helicopter to a hospital in nearby Lisbon.

He was listed in stable condition and expected to be held up for up to 48 hours, FIA officials said. Katayama had no broken limbs, but a stiff neck.

Ken Tyrrell, chairman of the Tyrrell team, said his driver was not seriously injured but his left arm was



Scottish Williams Renault driver David Coulthard jubilates on the podium after winning the Portuguese Grand Prix in Estoril (AFP photo)



Scottish Williams Renault pilot David Coulthard steers his Williams Renault into a curve during the Portuguese Grand Prix (AFP photo)

Jalabert wins Tour of Spain

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Frenchman Laurent Jalabert won the 50th running of the Tour of Spain Sunday finishing the 3,750-kilometre cycling race under sunny skies in front of the giant Santiago Bernabeu soccer stadium.

Jalabert's victory was all but assured midway in the race when the Frenchman put more than five minutes between himself and his closest challenger, Spaniard Abraham Olano riding for the Mapei-Gb team.

Jalabert won five of the race's 21 stages, proving himself nearly unbeatable in the mountains. His victory

marked the ninth time a French rider has won the Tour of Spain.

Meanwhile, the Spanish crowds that welcomed the riders into the city cheered heartily for Olano, the 25-year-old who many here see as the next great Spanish rider after Miguel Indurain, winner of July's Tour of France.

Olano completed the race four minutes and 22 seconds behind Jalabert. Belgian rider Johan Bruyneel, also of the Once team, finished third, 6 minutes and 48 seconds back.



Winner Laurent Jalabert of France is flanked at the podium by runner-up Abraham Olano of Spain (right) and third-placed Johan Bruyneel of Belgium after the final stage of the Tour of Spain cycle race (Reuters photo)

CINEMA
TEL: 634144
PHILADELPHIA
Liam Neeson & Jessica Lange in
Rob Roy
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:30, 10:45

CINEMA
TEL: 699238
PLAZA
Mahmoud Yassin / Hussein Fahmi in
NUT SHELL
Arabic
Shows at: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA
TEL: 677420
CONCORD "1"
Adel Imam & Yusra Birds of the Darkness (Arabic)
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:45
CONCORO "2"
Police Academy "Mission to Moscow"
Shows: 4, 6, 8, 10

AMMOUN THEATRE
TEL: 618274 - 618275
MUSA HIJAZIN "Sumaa"
IN
Hi Citizen
daily at 8:30 pm written & directed by Mohammed Shawqafeh *****

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Winner Laurent Jalabert of France is flanked at the podium by runner-up Abraham Olano of Spain (right) and

AHLAN THEATRE
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Welcome
Normalisation
Shows start at 8:30 p.m.
For reservation please call 625155 Amman

Sports

Boxer hospitalised after KO

BRISBANE, Australia (AP) — Filipino boxer Fernando Piccio was on a life support system in the Royal Brisbane Hospital Sunday after being knocked out in a bout in nearby Toowoomba the previous evening.

Piccio, 22, was stopped in the seventh round of an eight-round lightweight contest against Australian Selwyn Currie at the Toowoomba showground, 125 kilometres west of Brisbane.

He suffered a suspected brain hemorrhage after the bout and was taken to Toowoomba General Hospital for treatment. He was transferred to the Royal Brisbane Hospital early Sunday. The hospital said in a statement that he was: "Unconscious, on a life support machine and in a serious condition."

UEFA upholds ban on club

GENEVA (AP) — UEFA on Sunday rejected an appeal from Dynamo Kiev Sunday and upheld an earlier decision to disqualify the team from European competition for match-fixing.

The UEFA Appeal Council met for six hours before announcing that it was rejecting an appeal from the Ukrainians to reverse last week's penalty.

Dynamo Kiev was expelled from the European Champions League and from European tournaments for two years for trying to bribe the referee in their game on Sept.

13 against Greece's Panathinaikos.

UEFA found Dynamo officials had tried unsuccessfully to bribe Spanish referee Antonio Lopez Nieto in the Group A game which was won in Kiev 1-0 by the Ukrainians.

Nieto told UEFA that two Dynamo representatives offered him two fur coats worth \$30,000. Dynamo contends Nieto was trying to save face after not being able to pay for fur coats he had delivered to his hotel room before the match.

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Martin steps in for Agassi, sends U.S. to finals

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1995 11

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Todd Martin replaced an injured Andre Agassi and beat Sweden's Thomas Enqvist in straight sets Sunday to win the Davis Cup semifinal for the United States.

With a shirtless, bandaged Agassi watching from court-side, Martin clinched the berth against Russia in the Davis Cup finals for the U.S. team with a 7-5, 7-5, 7-6 (7-2) win before a cheering, flag-waving crowd at the outdoor court at Caesars Palace.

"It's the best feeling I've had in the game of tennis," Martin said after becoming the unlikely hero on a team stacked with the top two

players in the world.

Agassi, who had hoped to provide the deciding win before his hometown fans, had to be content instead with a courtside seat and tender hugs from girlfriend Brooke Shields as Martin gave the U.S. team an insurmountable 3-1 lead.

Agassi, who pulled a muscle on the right side of his chest in Friday's win over Mats Wilander, woke up Sunday to find the injury worse and decided he could not play.

"It's disappointing because you want to go out there and play," Agassi said. "We all

felt confident in Todd. He's a

great backup singles player."

Agassi, who was on the losing side in Saturday's doubles match, was told after the match by U.S. captain Tom Gullikson that he might have to play. But he went to bed Saturday night still not sure about Agassi's status.

"I was in limbo," said Martin, who got the final word he would play only 90 minutes before the match. "After I took a fair beating at the casino tables I figured I'd better get prepared for it in case I played. Of course, I didn't have any money left."

Martin, the world's 19th-ranked player, took advantage of some crucial mistakes

by Enqvist late in the first and second sets to turn the day's second match between Pete Sampras and Mats Wilander into nothing more than an exhibition.

Down 5-4 in the first set, Martin fought off two set points, one on a disputed call, to pull even. He broke Enqvist in the second game, then captured the set when the Swede netted a return of serve.

The scenario nearly repeated itself in the second set, as Martin took advantage of a double-fault by Enqvist with the games tied 5-5 before serving up a backhand winner to break his serve.

Within the sun-baked crowd of 11,503 going wild between points, Martin avoided another set point against an increasingly tentative Enqvist to tie the third set 6-6. He quickly opened up a 3-1 lead in the tiebreaker, finally capturing the match with a backhand that nestled

"He served very well and I had a lot of chances, but I didn't take them," Enqvist said.

Martin, who had lost the deciding match to Sweden in last year's semifinal, threw his racquet high in the air and hugged Gullikson and Agassi. He then buried his face in a towel, crying tears of joy.

"I guess I got my second chance," Martin said. "It was certainly my highest moment in tennis."



Todd Martin (right) hugs U.S. team captain Tom Gullikson after winning the Davis Cup semifinals against Thomas Enqvist, of Sweden at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas (Reuter photo)



teammate Todd Martin play a Davis Cup semi-final match against Sweden's Thomas Enqvist (AFP photo).

Russia shocks Germany, reaches Davis Cup final

MOSCOW (AP) — The odds were worse than in "Russian roulette" — facing nine match points against one of the best serves in tennis — but Andrei Chesnokov walked away unscathed.

As a result, Russia clinched a second straight spot in the Davis Cup final Sunday with a comeback only slightly less improbable than Chesnokov's wrenching, back-from-the-dead victory in five grueling sets over Germany's Michael Stich.

After dodging all nine bullets on Stich's serve, trailing 7-6 in the fifth set, the gutsy Chesnokov went on to a 6-4, 1-6, 1-6, 6-3, 14-12 triumph to keep alive Russia's dream of a first Davis Cup title. The dramatic final set lasted two

hours, 16 minutes. "It was unbelievable what I did," said a jubilant Chesnokov, a decided underdog against Stich even before his miracle rally. "After I lost two sets 6-1, 6-1, it looked like I had no more chances."

Russia, too, appeared to have few chances of winning after dropping Friday's first two matches.

The final-match showdown was made possible by a doubles victory Saturday by Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Andrei Olgovskiy, then by Kafelnikov's 6-1, 7-6, (7-5), 6-2 victory Sunday over Bernd Karbacher, a last-minute replacement after Boris Becker was sidelined by a back injury.

When Stich's double-fault

after 4:18 gave Russia a 3-2 victory in the best-of-five, Chesnokov fell to his knees and grabbed his head. Then his teammates picked him up and tossed him in the air as the indoor Olympic stadium crowd of over 10,000 went into a frenzy.

Andrei showed that he's a real player, a real fighter and a real Russian," said Kafelnikov, who was beaten by Stich on Friday.

It marked only the fifth time a team had won in Davis Cup world group play after trailing 2-0. Sweden accomplished the same feat against the United States in last year's semifinals.

The Russians, last year's runners-up, will play the U.S.-Sweden winner on Dec.

1-3. Chesnokov had won only three sets in his last four meetings against Stich — all on a clay surface similar to that used in Olympic stadium.

But the 59th-ranked Russian, a 12-year Davis Cup veteran, performed coolly and served out the first set at love after breaking Stich's serve to go up 5-4.

Stich began moving and serving better and broke Chesnokov's serve five times in the next two sets, apparently en route to an easy victory.

But Chesnokov, belting two-handed backhands from the baseline, battled back to take the fourth set. Then, after losing his serve to move to the brink of elimination in the fifth set, he fought off match point after match point — many on errors by the clearly tired Stich. Nearly an hour later, Stich double-faulted and Chesnokov had prevailed in 4 hours, 18 minutes.

"I think he had a little more gas left at the end," said the dejected Stich, who buried his head in a towel at court side after the match. "Still, I should have won."

Germany captain Nikki Pilic added: "That's happened maybe once in 50 years that someone who can serve like



Teammates throw Andrei Chesnokov of Russia into the air after his victory over Michael Stich of Germany in the deciding match of the Davis Cup semi-final (Reuters photo).

Michael would lose nine match points."

Becker, the world's No. 4 player, was in position to clinch Germany's fourth appearance in the final in eight years — the first with erstwhile rivals Becker and Stich playing together.

But the 27-year-old awoke in pain Sunday, his back aching from more than seven hours of hard-fought tennis in two days. After the Russian grounds crew overwatered the court before Friday's matches to try to slow the serve-and-volley German's, Becker outlasted Chesnokov but complained that playing on the soggy, uneven surface was "like jogging on the beach."

Facing the prospect of another grueling match against the sixth-ranked Kafelnikov, team captain Nikki Pilic made the decision to replace Becker with Karbacher, rated 31st in the world.

Karbacher had beaten the 21-year-old Kafelnikov in straight sets the last time they played. But Kafelnikov quickly showed his superiority in racing through the first set, and survived a brief threat in the second set when Karbacher knocked a forehand long in the tiebreaker before flinging his racket to the backstop in disgust.

It was only Karbacher's third Davis Cup match. Kafelnikov, including doubles, has played 24.

"He felt the pressure, and you could see that from the very beginning of the match," Kafelnikov said.

Medina wins WBC title

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Manuel Medina won a 12-round split decision Saturday over Alejandro Gonzalez to take his World Boxing Council (WBC) featherweight title.

There were no knock-downs, although both boxers appeared to be in trouble at various times.

Judge Lou Filippo of Downey, California, had it 116-112 for Medina, while Hank Elespuru of Sacramento went for the challenger 115-13. Chuck Williams of Honolulu cast a 115-113 decision for Gonzalez.

Gonzalez said he would appeal to the WBC for a rematch.

"I'm very sad the judges didn't accommodate the effort I put into it," he said. "I don't see how they could have voted for my opponent. I'm very confident I won the fight."

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